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RAPID CONCLUSION OF BELGRADE MEETING URGED

LD040248Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Vladen Kuznetsov commentary]

[Summary] All delegates agree that the Helsinki final act contains the maximum number of stipulations currently possible between East and West. Not one of the NATO proposals submitted at Belgrade deals with military relaxation; the U.S. delegation dwelt on the human rights issue at the expense of all other principles. The U.S. delegation disagrees with all Soviet proposals in the field of disarmament. The Pentagon is increasing U.S. military presence in Europe, the NATO countries are increasing their military budgets and an anti-Soviet campaign is underway. These actions increase the danger of military confrontation in Europe and violate the Helsinki provisions. The Soviet delegation maintains that it is best to include in a draft final document proposals which will find a consensus.

"A draft final document was proposed at the plenary session of the Belgrade meeting on 2 March. It was drafted during consultations between representatives of the socialist, neutral and Western countries, and reflects the determination of all participating nations to continue implementing all stipulations in the Helsinki accords. The Belgrade draft is aimed at further easing tension and increasing cooperation. The plenary speakers expressed their hope that this proposal will help bring the Belgrade meeting to a close in the near future on a positive note."

SOVIET DELEGATE VORONTSOV INTERVIEWED ON CSCE RESULTS

LD032216Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Our special correspondent Anatoliy Potapov reports from the Yugoslav capital [begin recording]

[Potapov] The Belgrade meeting has now been going on for almost 4 months. Plenary meetings continue daily here, although the regulations dictated that work was to have been completed as long ago as the middle of last month.

When can one expect its final completion? When will the work here at Belgrade Palace of Congresses come to an end? Here is the head of the Soviet delegation, Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov:

[Vorontsov] Practically, the main work of the Belgrade meeting has already been completed. Attention is now focused only on a brief final document which it is necessary to adopt; after this document has been adopted, the final speeches of delegations will follow. So, one can at this time speak in terms of a few days, by which time this work will have been carried out.

[Potapov] Yuliy Mikhailovich, in all probability one can already sum up some results of this meeting.

[Vorontsov] Absolutely; positive results outweigh the negative mements which cropped up during the meeting. The main result consists in this: The aims, tasks and solutions which had been adopted by the heads of states and governments at the all-European conference in Helsinki in 1975 have again been affirmed at the Belgrade meeting. I would say that the overwhelming majority of representatives of European countries have come out for continuing the movement along the path initiated at Helsinki--and this is a very important result.

Naturally, there were negative moments. There were attempts to revise the Helsinki meeting decisions; there were attempts at interfering in internal affairs of states. It should be stated outright that these attempts suffered defeat--and this, too, is a positive result of the Belgrade meeting. Now, from Belgrade, the movement will proceed further on questions regarding Europe and European cooperation only on the basis of the decisions adopted at Helsinki. Decisions adopted by the heads of states and governments in Helsinki are both important and correct. It is these decisions that will continue to be implemented.

[Porapov] Thank you Yuliy Mikhaylovich. In the lobby of the Palace of Congresses, representatives of delegations are acquainting journalists with what has already been agreed on at Belgrade. A decision has been adopted at the Belgrade meeting that the participants of the Helsinki conference--35 states--will meet in Madrid on 11 November 1980. [end recording]

U.S. ACCUSED OF HYPOCRISY FOR STAND AT BELGRADE MEETING

LD051912Y Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

["Stop the Hypocrisy, Gentlemen!"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--TASS political commentator Aleksey Petrov writes:

The Belgrade meeting, whose main task is to exchange views on the fulfilment of all the provisions of the Helsinki final act, is completing its work. It showed that this document continues to exert a positive influence on world events, facilitates a relaxation of international tension.

Along with other delegations sincerely interested in the further improvement of the world situation, in the spread of the detente policy to the military sphere, the Soviet delegation did its utmost for ensuring the success of the Belgrade conference, and submittted concrete, constructive proposals.

The United States is obviously guided by other considerations. Pursuing unseemly goals, Washington has repeatedly tried to reduce the debate to the so-called "human rights" problem.

Without even waiting for the meeting to end, the White House issued a separate statement on its results. Contrary to the actual state of affairs, it alleges that, because of the Soviet Union, no final document was adopted in Belgrade that would fully reflect the results of fulfilling the Helsinki accords. The statement substitutes the same "human rights" demagogy for an analysis of the meeting's work. Yet those provisions of the Helsinki documents which really promote detente, are being swept aside.

Moreover, the statement frankly says that the USA intends to bring pressure to bear on the Soviet Union regarding the fulfilment of its commitments to respect civil rights.

It is fitting to recall that Soviet citizens enjoy genuine democratic rights sealed in the Soviet Constitution.

As to the laughable claims of the statement's authors to the role of a kind of judge entitled to pressure other countries, they have obviously forgotten that the times of the "big stick", which the United States used to intimidate other countries, have long passed. Today's inter-state relations are built on the absolutely clear-out international principle of non-interference by one state in the internal affairs of another.

Those who would like to ignore this principle should look at themselves. It is well known that racial discrimination continues to be on the rampage in the United States where millions of Negroes, Indians, Puerto-Ricans, Chicanos are oppressed because of nationality, civil rights champions are subjected to persecution. Testimony to this are such shameful phenomena as the trial of the Wilmington ten, the death sentence to Harris pronounced only because he came out for the equality of Negroes and whites, life imprisonment of the poetess and noted public figure Assata Shakur. Is it not typical that the U.S. President did not even deem it necessary to reply to repeated requests by the leader of the Wilmington ten Ben Chavis to restore justice?

According to American trade unions, 10 million people in the U.S. are denied one of the basic rights--the right to work. American women are denied equal rights with men, nor is a relevant amendment to the constitution adopted.

Now, if we are to speak of responsibility for observing human rights, it will not be amiss to recall that, of the 10 international agreements in this sphere the U.S. has so far signed only five, and ratified only three, which, by the way, it does not observe all the same. It ignores, in particular, the international convenant on civil and political rights and the international convenant on man's economic, social and cultural rights. Meanwhile, these are fundamental international documents asserting in treaty form the provisions of the universal declaration on human rights.

So, give up your hyprocricy, gentlemen: Who are you, with such a "service record", to hold forth about the observance of human rights in other countries?

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD051714Y Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" with Albert Grigoryants, foreign editor of IZVESTIYA; Vadim Nekrasov, commentator from KOMMUNIST; and Aleksandr Druzhinin, political observer for USSR Television and Radio]

[Text] [Druzhinin] Good morning, Comrades. In the kaleidoscope of international events of the past week, I think we should single out all those that testify to the growth of the public movement for disarmament and for the deepening of the process of detente. We have seen many initiatives by various countries aimed at curbing the arms race and giving detente concrete and material content. We have once again been able to satisfy ourselves that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are marching at the head of that movement, at the head of the people's struggle for peace and for the elimination of the threat of a new war. In Budapest, another conference of secretaries of central committees of the communist and workers' parties of the socialist countries on international and ideological questions has ended. A central point of the discussion was how to maintain and consolidate peace and avert a nuclear catastrophe. The strengthening of peace is the prime task of each of our countries and of all our parties, said the leader of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Ponomarev stressed that in this cause, the parties, represented at the meeting had expressed their willingness to act still more vigorously, both in the political sphere and in the ideological sphere, the latter providing backing for the practical work of promoting detente.

This tireless activity by the socialist countries and the fraternal communist and workers' parties has already produced tangible results. For example, the process of detente is being widened and strengthened. One of the most vivid proofs of this fact, perhaps, is the work of the Belgrade meeting of the representatives of the states that attended the Conferences on Security and Cooperation in Europe. That meeting is now in its final stages.

CSCE Belgrade Meeting

[Grigoryants] Diplomats of 35 states have been working in the Yugoslav capital since the fall of last year. They have overcome many difficulties, and there may be further problems in store. Nevertheless, one thing is already clear: The very fact that a new meeting of the countries that took part in the Helsinki forum has been held is a sign of deep positive changes in Europe. Although the completion of the meeting is being delayed by various factors and it is continuing longer than originally intended, it should be said that the task set before the representatives of the 35 countries has been fulfilled. There has been a useful exchange of views, in some depth, on the implementation of the provisions of the final act; a wide range of questions has been examined regarding the strengthening of security and cooperation on the Continent of Europe and the development and deepening of the process of detente in the coming years. The meeting has undoubtedly stimulated what one might call a general European way of thinking, that is, a common search for solutions to the problems that are of pressing concern to all the countries of the continent. Thus, the participants agreed to convene the next general European meeting in Madrid in 1980. Switzerland proposed a conference to examine peaceful methods of settling disputes, the FRG submitted a proposal for a scientific forum envisioned by the final act.

Malta called for a conference to discuss matters of economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the Mediterranean.

Lively interest has been aroused by the plans for general European cooperation in economics, science and technology and the protection of the environment. Needless to say, stopping the arms race and supplementing political detente with military detente is of primary importance; and it is precisely in this decisive area that the Soviet delegation and the representatives of the other socialist countries have worked with particular energy and persistence. This is only natural because these are the key problems of Europe's future and of peace for its peoples.

Concern for the peaceful future of Europe was also reflected in the drafts of the final document submitted by the Soviet delegation--both the original draft and the supplement--in which we took into account proposals already agreed on or close to agreement. Why, then has the final document still not been adopted? For one reason only: because of the obstructionist position of the United States and some of their allies. Right from the very beginning, the American delegation has tried to divert the Belgrade meeting from its main path into the dubious by-way of virtual revision of the final act. You will remember that, as long ago as autumn of last year, the American representative, Goldberg, was asserting that it was not the business of the Belgrade forum to discuss the problem of disarmament. So what should it do? Mr Goldberg and his assistants showed that in practice. Members of the so-called congressional committee for monitoring observance of the Helsinki act descended on Belgrade. Under cover of talk about defending human rights, they tried to use the meeting to legitimatize the practice of gross interference in the internal affairs of other states. One became increasingly convinced that the American representative, who was continually in consultation with emigree riff-raff and dissidents, had come to Belgrade to whip up psychological war against the countries of socialism--all under the hypocritical pretext of concern for human rights.

It goes without saying that the Soviet delegation rejected all these worthless attempts, which were in flagrant violation of the principles of the Helsinki act; and now we have the Western press writing about Soviet intransigence and inflexibility. So we see that Western circles are trying to extract some sort of propaganda capital even out of their failure to divert the Belgrade meeting from its main direction. The delegates from the socialist countries are working in difficult conditions; but they are unflagging in their efforts to end the meeting in Belgrade with a positive result and to make their contribution to the strengthening of peace and security in Europe.

[Druzhinin] All that remains for me to add, Albert Aramovich, is that the participants of the meeting now have before them the draft final document prepared in the course of consultations among the representatives of the socialist, neutral and Western delegations. We know that its provisions are aimed at continuing the process of detente and stepping-up the cooperation begun by the heads of state and government at Helsinki in 1975. That cooperation must, first and foremost, further the cause of supplementing the process of political detente with military detente, which means greater and greater effort to solve the most important problem of the present day, the problem of stopping the arms race. I should like you, Vadim Nikolayevich, to say something about the tasks now facing us in this sphere.

Arms Race

[Nekrasov] I should like to begin with the fact that it is just 2 years since the 25th CPSU Congress ended. The congress adopted the program for the further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for freedom and independence of the peoples, put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in his report. The program adopted at the 25th congress took over the baton, and its aim was to consolidate and develop the positive achievements of the previous period. The central element of the program for furthering the struggle for peace--its kernel--was its aim to work toward insuring military detente, without which political detente cannot be consolidated. It is in this light that we should view the proposals and the activity of our country for ending the arms race, reducing armaments and moving on to practical disarmament.

I don't think there is any need for us today to cite once again facts and figures about the scale of the arms race. I should just like to remark that today the scale of the arms race is such that it could engulf the whole world. In this connection let me note the way this question was treated in a recent authoritative PRAVDA editorial on the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. The article stressed that the outlook for the future development of human civilization depends to a considerable extent on how we solve the problem of renouncing military rivalry. That is how our country sees it.

Soon, as you know--in May and June--a special session of the UN General Assembly will be held on the questions of disarmament. Today it can already be said that that session must be an important stage in the struggle against the danager that is hanging over the world. Our country, and the other countries of the socialist community, are actively preparing for the session and have put forward their proposals; and these Soviet proposals, like those of the fraternal countries of socialism, are now the focus of preparatory work for the session. It is important, I think, to emphasize one element of this position of the socialist countries: In their opinion, if appreciable progress is to be achieved in disarmament, all matters connected with it need to be examined at a wider and more authoritative level--namely, at a world disarmament conference.

So what are the advantages of such a conference as seen by our country? In the first place it would make concern for universal disarmament the subject of primary attention by the countries' highest political leaders. And secondly, on the basis of the wishes and recommendations of all countries expressed at such a conference, it would be possible to work out specific and effective measures to halt the arms race. This proposal for a world conference on disarmament is one of the components of the program for the further struggle for peace of the 25th CPSU Congress.

So, if one returns to the events of the past week, the important event in this sphere was the international conference of nongovernmental organizations for disarmament, which took place in Geneva. What is a nongovernmental organization? The point is that within the United Nations, apart from its direct participants, the sovereign states, there exists also an institute of accredited different international social organizations. These include, in particular, both the World Peace Council and the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Federation of Democratic Youth and so on. These organizations regularly gather at a conference which serves as a consultative organ of the United Nations. The present conference of these organizations was devoted to questions of disarmament and was seen by its participants as preparatory for the forthcoming special session of the General Assembly. On the basis of the discussion at the conference a message for the future special session was prepared.

It is important to stress today that the conference unanimously spoke out in favor of nuclear disarmament, for the banning of all means of mass destruction, against the production of the neutron weapon and for a world conference on disarmament.

It might seem that in this case these are all Soviet proposals, but this should not cause surprise because our proposals--concerning military detente, the halting of the arms race and disarmament--come precisely from regard for the desires of the world peaceloving public and in conformity with the strivings of the world public for the consolidation of the results of political detente, the implementation of military detente and thus the full normalization of the international situation.

[Druzhinin] Disarmament is not only a way to rid man of the threat of a new war, it would also lift the very heavy economic burden on the states which have now been drawn into the ever-increasing arms race.

I would like to cite two figures which characterize the scale of the arms race. NATO countries, for example, in order to supplement their arsenal over the past 10 years, spent the astronomical sum of $1.3 trillion. Last year alone the military expenditure of NATO was $165 billion. Meanwhile the economic position of the overwhelming majority of Western states is far from envious. It is forced to talk of a protracted period of deep depression, of serious currency irregulartiies, of the growth, of inflation, unemployment and a lowering in the standard of living of working people.

Western Economic Crisis

[Grigoryants] I would like to begin with the words of the well-known American figure George Kennen, who once noted that the money needed to replace the very important types of military equipment is now three to four times more expensive than the equipment which they will replace. Thus, when the military monopolies begin a qualitatively new round of the arms race, they dump a really excessive burden on the shoulders of the working people. Even now, they are programing a further growth in the cost of living, a decrese in employment and the cutting of social expenditure for the future. It is no accident that more and more people in the West make a direct connection between the protracted economic crisis, from which the world of capital can in no way extricate itself, and the ruinous military expenditure.

Meanwhile there is, as yet, no end in sight to the crisis. Last week, in an atmosphere of gloom, the representatives of 24 capitalist states, which form the so-called Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD], gathered in Paris. They were only able to ascertain a general and further worsening of the situation, the growth of inflation, the deepening of the depression and the increase of the army of the unemployed. Before the end of the year, another 700,000 people in the Western countries will find themselves on the streets, thrown out of their factories, offices and establishments. As a result, the number of unemployed in the OECD countries will reach 17 million. Do we have to say that this is not an abstract figure? It is the fate of people who have found themselves without a means of living, an inconsolable and at times desperate situation.

The worse things get, the crueller the competition becomes between the capitalist countries. The result is that the Western economic boat is rocked even more. Let us take a recent event. The whole of the world's press is writing of the unprecedented crisis of the dollar. The first of March is even being called an historic date in American-West German relations.

For the first time, the exchange rate is less than 2 West German marks for 1 dollar. The rate of the dollar has fallen with respect to other currencies. Moreover, it is at its lowest level in the entire post-war period. Observers are noting that Washington is not hastening to stop the fall in the rate of its currency. Is that accidental? No, far from it. The United States is, in essence, conducting a currency war against their allies and trade partners. The lowering in the rate of the dollar signifies that American export goods will be cheaper and more competitive abroad. At the same time, the export goods of the Federal Republic or Japan are growing more expensive. In these countries, unemployment will continue to grow and the number of bankruptcies will increase.

In striving to extricate itself from the difficulties at the expense of its partners, the United States has put forward the three locomotives theory, having proposed that the FRG and Japan help in stimulating the world capitalist economy. These more or less fortunate countries must, through artificial stimulation, increase their imports and thus help their partners. But this theory did not convince either Bonn or Tokyo, because it augurs nothing good. The crisis has brought a great deal of hardship to the simple folk above all. The working masses are ever more clearly realizing the perniciousness of the extravagant arms race, and are ever more deeply understanding the necessity for disarmament as the urgent task of our time.

SALT Negotiations

[Druzhinin] I would again like to return to the problem of disarmament and to especially dwell upon such an important question as the limitation of strategic offensive arms. In his recent speech at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed that all the possibilities now exist for the deepening and expansion of cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, it must be stated that the path to this cooperation is still littered with all sorts of obstacles, put there by forces which are interested neither in goodneighborly relations between the Soviet Union and the United States nor in the relaxation of international tension in general. This can be well illustrated by the example of the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. In actual fact, there seem to be all the prerequisites for concluding a second stage agreement on the limitation of strategic arms. There is the Vladivostok accord which was reached between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and former U.S. President Ford in 1974. President Carter has often said publicly that a new agreement can and must be concluded in the near future. But past Soviet-American relations give us no small number of examples that the better the prospects for cooperation between the two countries, the more active are the enemies of such cooperation in the United States. We are coming up against just such a phenomenon now regarding the progress of the Soviet-American talks.

Certain American circles, closely linked with the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex, are stubbornly striving to turn this question into a subject of sharp internal political struggle. Under the guise of the defense of U.S. national security, they are, by any means possible, striving to cast aspersions on the position of the Soviet Union and by that very fact complicate, and if they can, even wreck the conclusion of a second stage agreement.

What are the favorite arguments--if you'll pardon the word--of the opponents of the agreement? It is not difficult to get to know them if you look, for example, at what former defense secretary Laird wrote in READERS DIGEST.

He asserts that the Soviet Union supposedly violated the first stages of the agreement. Moreover, Laird states that it is generally impossible to monitor the observation of a strategic arms limitation agreement. Is that the case? Let us leave aside the fantasies of the retired Pentagon chief and turn to official American documents.

I have before me the U.S. State Department report on the observation of the agreement on restraining the strategic arms race, which was submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. It is a voluminous document. It has 300 pages and five sections in which all the material relating to the observation by both sides of the Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement is examined in the most scrupulous manner. What conclusion did the authors of the report reach then? Here is what Sparkman, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, says on this score: The committee spent much time on checking the charges levelled against the Soviet Union and never found any grounds for them. All the evidence we possess confirms the conclusion that the Soviet Union has treated the implementation of the agreement honestly.

As for the problem of monitoring the implementation of the agreement, it is invented from beginning to end. Warnke, the director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency--he is also head of the American delegation to the talks with the Soviet Union--submitted to Congress a document which says clearly that a strategic arms limitation agreement can certainly be monitored by national technical means.

It would appear everything is clear. But it is not. Even in the U.S. administration itself there are people whose actions objectively hinder progress on an agreement. How otherwise can we interpret the statement by Zbigniew Brzezinski. The President's aide on national security, recently asserted that the United States had made concessions in the talks with the Soviet Union and that now the ball is supposedly in the Soviet Union's court, for it to show political will. What kind of will is Brzezinski talking about? Hasn't our country repeatedly shown good will in an effort to resolve the problem of restraining the strategic arms race? Such a position taken by Brzezinski encourages the American hawks, to whom talk about the Soviet Union's obstinacy provides the opportunity to demand the further build-up of the arms race and the creation and deployment of new weapons systems, the neutron one in particular.

Neutron Bomb

[Grigoryants] The creators of the neutron bomb are now concerned with one thing only: to create favorable political conditions for the realization of their schemes. The fact is that not one sensible person can accept this weapon. Taking into account such feelings, many European members of NATO dare not yield to the Pentagon's importunities. A number of countries have stated bluntly that they will not allow neutron charges to be deployed on their territory. They include Norway, Holland, Greece and others. That is one reason why Washington is delaying the decision to begin producing neutron charges. In the face of mass protests no one dares assume the political responsibility for such a dangerous step. The observers write that the White House is awaiting signals from Europe. It would like the initiative to come from the European members of NATO. It would like them to ask Washington; while the West European countries in their turn want the United States to assume all the responsibility. In particular, the FRG Government makes it clear that it will express its opinion on the deployment of the new weapon in Europe only when the United States decides to manufacture it.

In brief, an unworthy game is being played, because what they are talking about is not to close completely the new channel of the arms race, but how to introduce the neutron bomb in Europe and at the same time avoid the explosion of popular indignation.

However, there are political parties and state figures who have been the first in Europe to assume the unseemly role of zealous advocates of the barbaric weapon. It is known that a faction of the West German CDU/CSU Party has openly voiced support of the production and development of this weapon on FRG territory. There is nothing surprising in this. The CDU/CSU is a party which has maintained cold war positions, and all its program lines are imbued with the spirit of anti-Sovietism and anticommunism.

What cannot fail to evoke bewilderment, however, is the statement by British Prime Minister Callaghan. He was the first of the West European state figures to come out in support of the neutron bomb. One would think that in the matter which concerns the fate of millions of people and the fate of peace and security in Europe more discretion restraint and a sense of responsibility could be expected from a figure at such a level.

How do the apologists for the neutron weapon substantiate their calls? With the same concoctions about the Soviet threat.

[Nekrasov] The fact, comrades, that Western propaganda is persistently supporting the supposed defensive nature of the neutron weapon and that it is supposedly designed solely to combat tank offensives draws attention to itself. It is the shameless use of this argument that poses a great danger today, during the struggle against this weapon, because if one looks at the nub of the matter, it is quite obvious that the neutron weapon is primarily an offensive weapon.

The very radius of strike--it is some kilometers in diameter--means that not one side would want to use it on their own territory. Secondly, what ultimately is the neutron weapon? It is the use of neutron artillery charges, and the artillery is by no means only a defensive weapon. It is an offensive weapon, a weapon, which as all those who participated in World War II remember well, is used to break open the opponent's defence, to take the offensive. Naturally the neutron weapon will also be used for offensive purposes. It is an offensive weapon, and by no means a defensive one.

[Grigoryants] This is also acknowledged by prominent figures in the West. In particular, Bahr, one of the leaders of the West German Social Democratic Party, stated bluntly that the neutron charges could serve as offensive weapons. Bahr noted also that the new weapon makes a total nuclear confrontation more probable.

SALT, Horn Linking

[Druzhinin] There is no doubt but that all this noise surrounding the neutron weapon seriously hinders cooperation between the Soviet Union and the United States in the disarmament sphere. However, one must mention one more factor which harms such cooperation. In the United States officials circles have expressed a certain 'theory of linking' the problem of strategic arms limitation with other international problems--such as, the problem of the Horn of Africa.

In his latest meeting with journalists, Zbigniew Brzezinski considered it possible to state that if the Soviet Union does not discontinue support for the struggle of the Ethiopian people against the Somali aggressors then a political atmosphere would be created in the American Congress that would make it impossible to ratify a future strategic arms limitation agreement.

President Carter then tried to dissociate himself from that position, but the essence of the matter was not altered by that. This is acknowledged by the American press itself. Our government, the Washington POST writes, possibly raises the question of Ethiopia in order to distract attention from the fact that it still has not managed to come to an understanding on the conclusion of a strategic arms limitation agreement.

[Nekrasov] Well, concerning the method of linking itself, it is not a new method of imperialist foreign policy. However, if one speaks concretely about the situation in what is called the Horn of Africa, then we know that the Somali aggressors presently occupy 20 percent of Ethiopian territory. That is a large part of the country. True, it is mainly desert and unpopulated, but in area it is a big territory.

Somalia, in pursuing such an aggressive policy, has violated one of the most important principles to which all the African states adhere--namely the principle of the preservation of the existing frontiers.

However, the matter concerns not only the violation of such an accord. In Africa, many people realize that the main concern is the attempt by the imperialist forces behind Somalia to hamper those radical, democratic transformations of a socialist nature, which revolutionary Ethiopia has made.

The inflammatory role which Washington played at the beginning of the Somali aggression is known from press reports. One cannot get away from these revelations. Thus, what is at issue in the present conflict is the defense by the Ethiopian people of their national interests, the common principles of the national-liberation movement on the African Continent and the defense of the course toward democratic transformations and toward the way out of the age-old backwardness in which the country found itself.

Yes, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, in particular the Republic of Cuba, do not hide the fact that they are rendering support to the democratic regime of Ethiopia. The support is given to the extent and in the way which corresponds to the interests of the Ethiopian people, while Somalia in fact is receiving weapons from the Western countries. It is receiving them via intermediaries, via third countries, via Cairo. There are reports that such deliveries are being made via Iran and Pakistan; they are obtained perhaps not directly but by secret paths. A recent exhibition of captured tropies in the Ethiopian capital and other towns of the country is indicative of the extensive military support which the Western imperialist forces are rendering to the aggressor.

That is how things stand in the Horn of Africa region today.

[Druzhinin] Permit me at this point to end our conversation, comrades. Thank you for your attention to our broadcast. Goodby.

LINKING OF HORN SITUATION, SALT 'FLAGRANT BLACKMAIL'

LD061105Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Political observer Georgiy Ratiani article: "When the Sense of Responsibility Is Lost"]

[Text] It is clear to every politician who is worried about the fate of the world that the prospects for the further development of human civilization depend to a considerable extent on the implementation of practical measures to halt the arms race and to convert to actual disarmament. The problem of strategic offensive arms limitation has a special place in the resolution of this task. This is why the Soviet-American talks being held on this extremely important question attract tremendous interest from the international public.

The Soviet Union is conducting these talks consistently and constructively on the basis of strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security. Through the fault of the American side, serious difficulties have arisen at the talks, and some of them remain even today. This is primarily because certain U.S. circles would like to violate the principle of equality and equal security in their favor.

In all their complexities the talks have continued, until now, within the framework of the problem of strategic offensive arms limitation. However, Washington now considers it possible to link these talks with other international issues which bear no relation whatever to them.

As is known, a malicious anti-Soviet campaign is being fanned abroad, for by no means the first time, regarding events in the region of the Horn of Africa, and various kinds of fabrications are being composed regarding the USSR's "aggressive" plans. They are now trying to link the fate of the SALT talks with the problem in the Horn of Africa which, with the help of official Washington circles, has been given an anti-Soviet interpretation. It is not difficult to detect a smack of flagrant blackmail here which is totally unacceptable in international relations.

A few days ago a State Department statement noted that the signing of a strategic arms limitation agreement "could be an important step" along the path toward improving relations between the USSR and the United States, and added that the nature of Soviet-American relations also depends on the settlement of local conflicts, for example, in the region of the Horn of Africa," and of conflicts which lead to an increase in the general level of "tension in the world."

The American press understood immediately what the authors of this statement are driving at. "This is the first time," the New York TIMES writes, "that an official statement, albeit indirectly, has linked the SALT talks with the Ethiopian-Somali conflict in the Horn of Africa." The extreme rightwing New York DAILY NEWS makes unbridled threats against the USSR on the same subject and appeals to the White House to exacerbate the situation in the region of the Horn of Africa by transferring American troops there.

Robert Byrd, Senate Democratic majority leader, addressing representatives of the press, tried to show that the Soviet Union's help to the victim of the aggression, Ethiopia, "undermines U.S. interests and threatens international peace." [paragraph continues]

He expounded the tenets put forward more carefully in the State Department statement and proposed "freezing" Soviet-American relations in the most varied fields.

Thus, the Washington mechanism is working efficiently. Z. Brzezinski's "national security" services are publishing fantastic figures to frighten ordinary Americans, citing the latest CIA data--Brzezinski is one of the CIA directors--regarding the arms and armed forces of the socialist countries supposedly deployed in the region of the Horn of Africa. Other departments are spreading fables about the plans which the USSR supposedly has to invade Saudi Arabia, with its oil wealth. Finally, at the level at which political recommendations are taken, it is proposed: Why not link all this with the SALT talks. That will be a strong knot!

All this is an unworthy and dangerous game surrounding the main problems of international security and detente, a game which the predecessors of the present Washington administration tried to play in the years of the "cold war" and the Vietnam war. That ended most tragically. It is, of course, possible even now to do serious harm to the SALT talks, but those who do this are in reality doing harm to the noble cause of peace throughout the world and also to the United States and the American people, which have an objective interest in putting an end to the strategic arms race.

The new maneuvers by influential U.S. circles in trying to link problems which have nothing in common will bring them no laurels. Those who delay the conclusion of a strategic arms limitation agreement or try to wreck it are bringing matters to a new twist in the race for the most dangerous means of warfare, which can only sharply increase the threat of nuclear missile catastrophe.

CARTER'S REMARKS ON SALT, HORN CONFLICT INCONSISTENT

ID031644Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 3 Mar 78 ID

[Text] Washington, 2 March, TASS--At a press conference, U.S. President J. Carter has touched on the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and several other international problems.

The Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, the President said, have not been interrupted or postponed. They are now in progress, and the Soviet Union's role in the events in the Horn of Africa has not caused a suspension of that process. The United States, he said, is not pursuing a policy which provides for a linkage between the Soviet Union's role in the Ethiopia-Somalia conflict on the one hand and the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks on the other.

The President admitted that "at the moment it is Somalia which is invading." Nontheless, J. Carter showed clear inconsistency in alleging that the Soviet Union's actions in that region--which, as is known, are aimed at defending the sovereignty of Ethiopia and giving help to the victim of aggression--"create a threat to peace in the Horn of Africa." "The Russians' own actions," he said, "are leading to a linkage between these two points," that is, the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and the Soviet Union's aid to Ethiopia.

Such an inconsistent approach gives rise to criticism in certain Washington political circles and in the U.S. press iteself.

In an editorial entitled "Son of Linkage" the Washington POST writes: "It is possible that our government is raising the question of Ethiopia in order to divert public attention from the fact that it has not so far managed to agree on the conclusion of an agreement on arms limitation." Perhaps this is not so after all, the Washington POST notes, but instead of adding grist to the mill of those who oppose talks with the Soviet Union, our leaders should defend the talks. The paper states that the United States is interested in completing these talks independently of the consequences arising out of the worsening of the situation in any third country.

A good agreement on the limitation of strategic arms is too important for the United States to make it a condition of settling conflict in the Horn of Africa, the Washington POST states. All the more so, the paper writes in conclusion, because in this conflict the USSR supports the principle of territorial integrity.

Obstacle to Cooperation

LD040240Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lately administration leaders in Washington have been making frequent statements that distort the Soviet Union's stand on issues of Soviet-American relations. Speaking yesterday, President Carter declared that Congress took an unfavorable view of the Soviet involvement in events in the Horn of Africa and that would make more difficult ratification of any new SALT agreement. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and the President's national security adviser, Zbigniew Brzesinski, have made similar statements, claiming the Soviet Union puts up obstacles for the SALT-II talks and for relaxation of tensions. Our observer Vladimir Bolshakov makes the following comment:

This is not the first time that American policymakers put forward artifical arguments which can only slow down the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States and to create an unfavorable atmosphere for the current alks. Just recall how the issue of freedom of emigration was dragged, contrary to logic, to bear on questions of normalization of Soviet-American trade. Although it is obvious to anyone that emigration has nothing to do with economic, scientific and technical ties, the United States view the issue of emigration as an invented pretext to prevent action on the trade agreement signed between the Soviet Union and the United States. So far this approach of Washington remains an obstacle for an expansion of mutually advantageous Soviet-American trade.

Everyone also remembers the propaganda campaign Washington has been conducting on alleged violations of human rights in the socialist countries. Under the pretext of protecting human rights, the United States has been trying to interfere in the internal affairs of socialist countries, and that is certainly an obstacle towards an expansion of international cooperation.

Now Washington connects the SALT-II talks with the assistance the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries are giving to Ethiopia, which was subjected to an aggressive attack by a neighboring country, Somalia. Commonsense seems to indicate that, in the interests of the entire international community, nations should condemn the aggressor and support the country that was subjected to attack in its efforts to liberate the occupied territory and to expel the aggressor. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries are following exactly such a line. Without seeking any privileges for itself and without threatening anyone, the Soviet Union strives for only one thing: to help friendly Ethiopia to repel aggression and to restore peace and justice.

But contrary to the real situation and to any logic, the Washington leaders are trying to picture the Soviet policy as a threat to peace in the Horn of Africa. They ascribe all sorts of evil intentions to the Soviet Union. Naturally, such an approach can have only one aim: to create obstacles towards Soviet-American cooperation. Attempts of American administration leaders to link the events in the Horn of Africa with the SALT-II talks create the impression that only the USSR and not the United States is interested in concluding these talks. As is known, progress has been made at these talks on problems whose solutions are of really tremendous importance for averting a nuclear war and strengthening world peace.

It was exactly 2 years ago, at the 25th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, that Leonid Brezhnev advanced proposals about further developing relations with the United States, about the importance of concluding the SALT-II talks. A few days ago, speaking in the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Leonid Brezhnev underlined again that this country stands for a speedy completion of the SALT-II talks, which would be a real turning point towards a military relaxation. We'd like to hope, declared Leonid Brezhnev, that responsible leaders in the United States realize how much is at stake.

Attempt To Cover Policy

LD041856Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] As you may have heard in the news, an anti-Soviet campaign is being stepped up in the United States in view of events in the Horn of Africa. Comment is from our observer Viktor Viktorov, and this is what he writes.

The campaign has taken on a new twist in recent days. Attempts are being made to lump together the Soviet stand on the Somali-Ethiopian conflict with the prospects of the Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic offensive arms. The signal came from the United States State Department.

It issued a statement pointing out that the character of Soviet-American relations depends on settling local conflicts, for instance the one in the Horn of Africa. Similar allegations were contained in several recent statements made by the United States President's assistant on national security affairs, Zbigniew Brzezinski, and the U.S. propaganda media were quick in taking up the cue. A noisy campaign got underway: I don't know whether the masterminds of that campaign realize what consequences it might lead to. Meanwhile, many things are at stake. Those who link the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the development of the local conflict in the Horn of Africa are putting up additional obstacles in the way to agreement. This is an unseemly and dangerous game. The Soviet-American talks are dealing with a problem directly concerning international security. All countries are interested in their successful outcome. The reason is that the Soviet-American agreement would block the arms race and reduce the threat of a nuclear missile catastrophe.

There is every sign that the masterminds of the anti-Soviet campaign want to divert public attention from the policy that the United States and other Western powers are pursuing in the Horn of Africa. This policy is well known. It is the NATO powers, helped by the reactionary Arab regimes, that instigated Somalia to aggression against Ethiopia, and it is those forces that are now fanning the flames of a conflict there by supplying the Somali Army with weaponry although that army has invaded foreign territory.

Evidently some people also hope to put pressure on the Soviet Union, but those schemes are nothing but attempts to drive a square peg into a round hole. Such attempts failed in the past and they are sure to fail now, too. The USSR seeks nothing for itself in Africa, nor is it striving to escalate the Somali-Ethiopian conflict. It has done all it can for a peaceful settlement of relations between the two African countries, but when Mogadiscio embarked on the road of expansion, the Soviet Union came to the help of the victim of aggression. This is her principled policy and it is in vain that the influential circles in the United States resort to unworthy maneuvers. If one asked what might result from lumping together world problems having nothing to do with each other, the answer can only be one--it will result to greater tension in relations among countries and to the piling up of more obstacles in the way to solving problems which determine the destinies of peace.

U.S. OFFICIAL POLICY ON USE OF ARMS IN SOMALIA QUESTIONED

LD041232Y Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

["American Arms for Aggressor: U.S. Official Stand?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, March 4, TASS--As is reported by the UPI news agency, a high-placed representative of the U.S. Defence Department told journalists that if such pro-Somali countries as Iran or Egypt are ready to send troops and military equipment to give support to Somalia, the Pentagon will consider the question of temporary lifting the ban on the use of American-made arms in warfare abroad. Thus, this is undisguised instigation by official representatives of the U.S. Government for direct armed interference on the side of the aggressor. The question, therefore, arises whether this statement, made by the Defence Department's representative, testifies to the U.S. official stand?

U.S. INDIRECTLY AGGRAVATING SITUATION IN HORN OF AFRICA

LD041424Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 0930 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Sergey Yekimov commentary]

[Text] According to news agency reports, NATO member-countries have increased arms supplies to Somalia. AS-SIYASAH of Kuwait writes that shiploads of heavy armaments and war equipment are arriving at Somali ports one after another, in order to deliver arms and weapons to Somalia which has invaded Ethiopia. Observers point out that parallel with these activities, the United States and certain other NATO members have intensified their diplomatic activities in the Horn of Africa to persuade Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Sudan as well as Iran to adopt a more active role in helping the Somali aggressors. The world press also points to U.S. attempts to persuade some of these countries to send troops to the Horn of Africa to provide support for the Somali Army.

On these events, our commentator Sergey Yekimov writes: Of course, the claim by the imperialist propaganda machinery and its supporters to the effect that Ethiopia's successes in stopping aggression might endanger the oil routes to the West will not mislead anyone. It is common knowledge that time and again the Ethiopian leadership has announced that it has no intention of threatening any country in this part of the world. Moreover, the Ethiopian Government, in order to express its peaceful intentions, has repeatedly announced that the Ethiopian forces, after driving out the occupiers of its territory, will not launch any aggression against Somali territory.

Consequently, PEYGHAM-E EMRUZ, putting it quite justly and aptly, wrote: Under no circumstances will there be the slightest danger to oil tankers passing through the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. Meanwhile, social circles in the Horn of Africa are becoming aware of the danger resulting from the intensified diplomatic activities undertaken by the United States. It now appears that many Iranian journalists as well are realizing this danger.

The article carried by PEYGHAM-E EMRUZ in late January under the heading, "Fomenting the Flames of War Indirectly Is the Approach Adopted by the United States in the Red Sea," is quite interesting within this context. The author of the article concludes that the West, using all its possibilities, is trying to aggravate the situation in the western part of the Indian Ocean and involve the region's countries in the existing conflict on the side of Somalia. The author rightly points out that fomenting the conflict in the Horn of Africa by the West, might very well lead to the deterioration of the relations between the African and Asian countries. The fact is that a great many Asian and African countries sympathize with Ethiopia's struggle against the ruthless aggression; these countries are opposed to interference in this conflict by other countries.

The OAU has denounced those Afro-Asian countries which, under the imperialists' pressure, have become involved in the current conflict in support of the aggressor and which have supplied weapons to it. Facts testify that any further attempt to internationalize the present conflict between these two countries will only serve to further deteriorate relations between these countries and a great many African and Asian states.

However, this is precisely what Washington is trying to achieve by applying the same worn-out slogan used by all imperialists, divide and rule. By involving certain countries in the current conflict, Washington is trying to overthrow the revolutionary Ethiopian regime or, at least, create some problems for it. Meanwhile, the ruling quarters in the United States are hoping to make the countries more dependent on Washington after drawing them into this conflict.

According to PEYGHAM-E EMRUZ, another reason that the United States and other NATO members want to create unrest in the Horn of Africa is that by escalating the conflict they will provide a better market for the sale of arms; obviously, this will suit the arms suppliers. The U.S. military-industrial complex, the biggest supplier of arms plans to deliver more than $13 billion worth, $2 billion more than last year, of arms and war materials to other countries. It is rather interesting to note that a major part of these weapons and materials is shipped to the most explosive parts of the world. For example, according to official figures, 80 percent of these materials are shipped to the Near East. That is where the Arab-Israeli conflict continues, and another hotbed of armed conflict has been created next to it, the Horn of Africa.

The U.S. monopolists seem to believe that the more the countries of this region are pushed into this conflict, the better the market in the Near East for the sale of their deadly war materials and, consequently, the faster the flow of gold piling up in their vaults. According to U.S. leaders' admission, military bosses and owners of the military-industrial complex play an effective role in formulating U.S. foreign and domestic policies. Consequently, it is not surprising that the influence of the military complex is reflected in Washington's policy, aimed at fomenting the flames of conflict in the Horn of Africa.

AMERICAN ARMS AID TO SUDAN, ZAIRE, OTHERS REVEALED

LS011732Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1314 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 1 March, TASS--R. Moose, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, at hearings in the House of Representatives, has made public the U.S. program of military support for African countries. He announced a total of $87.2 million is set aside in the new fiscal year. A large part of this amount is intended for Zaire and Sudan. According to R. Moose, Zaire will receive $1705 million for the "modernization and reorganization" of its armed forces. Under the program F-5 fighters, radar installations, armored personnel carriers and other military hardware will be supplied to Sudan.

Apart from arms supplies, Washington intends to continue training, in the United States, officers of several African states including Sudan, Zaire, Senegal and Upper Volta.

Giving the reasons for U.S. military support for Sudan, R. Moose claimed, in part, that Khartoum is playing a "constructive role" in the eastern part of the African Continent. It is pointed out here that this "role" refers to Sudan's active support for Somalia in its aggression against neighboring Ethiopia. In particular, as already reported, Sudan is now one of the channels through which the NATO countries are supplying arms to Mogadiscio.

IRANIAN-U.S. 'FRIENDSHIP,' ARMS DEALS LINKED TO PETROLEUM

LD022223Y Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 2, TASS--The United States continues to strengthen its ties with Iran. In the strategic plans of Washington this country is assigned the role of champion of American interests in the Persian Gulf region. This, according to certain evaluations, is the implication of the meetings of the American-Iranian mixed commission for economic cooperation that have ended here.

The U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who headed the delegation of the United States, stated that the main emphasis at the meetings was made on scientific-technical ties in the domain of power enginerring. The point in question, specifically, was the sale to Iran of American nuclear reactors. Agreement on this question was reached during the recent visit to Iran of President James Carter. In accordance with this agreement the United States is now training Iranian specialists to man nuclear reactors.

The United States makes no bones about the fact that Washington's "friendship" with Teheran is based on petroleum. Alongside with Saudi Arabia, Iran is the leading supplier of this fuel to the United States. The United States secretary of defense, Harold Brown, recently declared openly that since the world's biggest oil deposits are located in the Middle East and in the Persian Gulf region, this area could not be separated from U.S. security, the security of NATO and the U.S. allies in Asia.

The United States is ensuring this "security" by stepped up deliveries of the latest arms. Thus, according to the Washington POST, during the past nine years Teheran purchased from the United States 18,000 million dollars worth of weapons. Last year alone it received over a half of all the American arms delivered abroad.

All in all, Iran obtained or ordered from the United States more than 300 F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers, 80 F-14 Tomcat fighters, big lots of F-5 fighters and patrol planes, 500 military helicopters, submarines, destroyers and other armaments. Iran purchased from the United States only a short while ago three planes of the Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS), 160 F-16 fighters, and is now conducting talks on additional purchases of these types of arms.

Massive deliveries of the latest weaponry leads to the sharp growth of the number of American military specialists in Iran. According to the data, published by the press, their number exceeds 50,000.

Increased American military deliveries to this region, directly bordering on the Soviet Union, is lined with the serious risk of increasing tension. This was pointed out, specifically, by Senators Thomas Eagleton and John Culver, as well as other influential American congressmen and political leaders.

Bonn, March 2, TASS--An official spokesman of the FRG Government stated at a press conference in Bonn, that the Federal Council for Security approved the delivery to Iran of six submarines, which will be built by West German yards. Simultaneously with these deliveries, the FRG will train Iranian naval personnel.

FRG ARMS MONOPOLIES WRING CONCESSIONS FROM PENTAGON

LD011825Y Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 1, TASS--The United States Defence Department plans to purchase in the FRG military transport facilities and supplies worth 100 million dollars. As it is seen from the statement of the Pentagon's official spokesman, the purchased equipment is intended for the American troops stationed in the FRG. He said that this transaction would allow the United States to save millions of dollars by servicing the West German equipment on the spot.

The American information media present the new military order as a "voluntary" step of the United States towards the "standardisation" of armaments within the frameworks of NATO. In reality we are witnessing here a forced concession of the American military-industrial monopolies to the West German rivals, who are demanding that an end should be put to the "one-way" flow of military deliveries to NATO, to U.S. domination in the NATO armaments market.

The demands of the West German military concerns are brought about by the constant growth of military production, development of ever new types of weapons. The Krauss-Maffei firm, which is a part of the Flick military concern, produces, for instance, the Leopard tanks which are used by the armies of the FRG, Holland, Belgium and Norway. As regards the number of tanks delivered to foreign armies, the FRG is already ahead of the United States. The Messerschmitt-Belkow-Blohm (MBB) firm is preparing to launch the production of the Tornado warplane intended, primarily, for export to NATO countries.

Possessing a powerful military-industrial basis which they have developed, the FRG monopolies were able to conclude of late such profitable arms deals, as the agreements to supply the American XM-1 tank with artillery guns of West German make, and also to supply the United States with guns for the self-propelled Leopard [as received] anti-aircraft installations.

Both these agreements were achieved after long and difficult negotiations, during which the United States hoped to keep in check its rival. The new concession of the Pentagon shows, however, that Bonn does not intend to stop at the achieved and is striving for ever new military orders.

MORE FUNDS ASKED FOR RADIOS LIBERTY, FREE EUROPE

LD021333Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Vladimir Bolshakov article: "Saboteurs of the Airways"]

[Text] A routine application to finance the subversive Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe in fiscal 1979 has been submitted to the U.S. Congress. This time the request is for $79 million, which considerably exceeds the previous expenditures for maintaining these CIA radio centers in Munich. At the same time Congress is examining a request to, allocate an extra $10.5 million to them in fiscal 1978, in addition to the $73 million allocated earlier.

But it is no secret that these radio stations, which went on the air at the beginning of the fifties, were and remain, despite the numerous disguises, mouthpieces of the "cold war" and CIA sabotage centers. Broadcasting 980 hours a week in 16 languages to the USSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Czechoslovakia, these radio stations systematically slander the socialist system. Quite recently one of their directors admitted openly that the aim of these radios is "the encouragement of neocapitalism" in socialist countries. The activity of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe is directly aimed at undermining the system existing in these countries. There are countries examples of this. The Soviet press, and indeed also the American press, has written a great deal about them. Nevertheless certain U.S. circles are trying to prove that they have changed and that their activity does not contradict Soviet-American understandings or the provisions of the final act signed by the states of Europe, the United States and Canada in Helsinki. Bluntly speaking, these assertions are extremely far from the reality. This was again forcefully confirmed by the Soviet representatives at the meeting taking place in Belgrade.

Soviet people do not want anything to do with the various types of traitors and renegades based in the CIA radio centers. It is not surprising that the proposal which recently emerged from the United States--to grant representatives of the USSR and other socialist countries "time to speak on these stations"--was indignantly rejected by the Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries. The villainous nature of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe cannot be concealed by attempts to present them in the role of some kind of "instructors" and innocent "informers." These are all still the same skillful "dirty tricks" of the CIA which the American press once indignantly wrote about.

Millions of dollars are thrown into subsidizing this activity which serves only to sow hate and mistrust among peoples.

KYODO: SUPREME SOVIET SENDS MESSAGE TO NPC

OW040017Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0008 GMT 4 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Peking, March 4, KYODO--Reliable diplomatic sources in Peking revealed Friday night that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has sent a message to the current fifth National People's Congress [NPC] here proposing holding of talks for normalization of Sino-Soviet relations. Quoting officials of the Soviet Embassy in Peking, they said the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet indicated in the message that the Soviet Union will agree to the holding of the negotiations at any time, place and level desired by China.

The diplomatic sources said a copy of the message was sent also to the Chinese Embassy in Moscow. They believed Chinese leaders were now making a study of the contents of the message. They intimated that the message was sent at a comparatively early date following the opening of the Fifth NPC February 26.

Soviets Decline Comment

OW040020Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0010 GMT 4 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, March 3, KYODO--Officials of the International Department of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet declined to make a comment when queried by KYODO Friday on whether a message calling for holding of negotiations for normalization of Sino-Soviet relations had been sent to the fifth NPC now in session in Peking.

As of Friday night, the Soviet mass media has not published any report confirming that such a message had been sent. The Chinese Embassy here also has refused to comment on the matter. The Soviet Union, however, has sent congratulatory messages annually on the occasion of China's National Day in which it appealed for "normalization of relations." Therefore, observers believe that it can be fully considered that the Soviet Union had sent such a message to the Chinese NPC.

CLOSING, RESULTS OF NPC SESSION IN PRC REPORTED

LD052037Y Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Peking, March 5 TASS--The 1st session of the National People's Congress [NPC] of the PRC of the fifth convocation ended here today. It opened on February 26. The congress adopted an amended text of the PRC Constitution, as well as the "Basic Guidelines for the 10-Year National-Economic-Development Plan of the PRC for 1976-1985." The report on the work of the government was made by Hua Kuo-feng, the report on amendments to the constitution--by Yeh Chien-ying.

At the concluding sitting of the session it elected a new Standing Committee of the NPC and the State Council of the PRC. Yeh Chien-ying becomes the chairman of the Standing Committee (the post was vacant since the death of Chu Te in July 1976).

Hua Kuo-feng has been affirmed as the premier of the PRC State Council, he has been fulfilling this post since April, 1976. 20 vice-chairmen of the Standing Committee of the NPC have been elected and 13 vice-chairmen of the State Council, including Teng Hsiao-ping. The session adopted a new text of the PRC national anthem.

The NPC of the previous, fourth convocation was convened in January 1975, and had not been convened since then only, though under the constitution it is to be held every year. The replacement of the former composition of the NPC, and the amendment of the PRC Constitution, as well as changes in the leading bodies are directly connected with the continuing campaign of political discreditation of the "gang of four", the grouping of Mao Tse-tung's widow and the removal of her supporters from state and party bodies. The list of deputies to the NPC was drawn up at session of the representative people's meetings of the provinces, autonomous regions and large cities, which passed in an atmosphere of purging them from supporters of the "four".

In his report Hua Kuo-feng stated that since the 1st session of the NPC of the fourth convocation, an "acute and complex class struggle and struggle of two lines" went on in the PRC. The removal of the "four" was, according to him, "a great victory" in this struggle. He described the continuation and bringing to an end the struggle against the "gang of four" and its supporters as the "priority task" of the present time and for the immediate future.

The session confirmed the slogan of carrying out in China the so-called "four modernisations," which apart from the task of developing economy and science, includes building up in China a "modern defence" in order to turn China towards the end of the century into a "great, mighty power." The 10-year-plan for developing the PRC's national economy, the basic guidelines for which were adopted by the session just over, are regarded as a stage in the attainment of this task.

The text of the amended PRC Constitution has not been published yet. The report of Yeh Chien-ying makes it clear that changes in the PRC Constitution envisage the formulation of the slogan of "four modernisations" in the legislation, as a "general task". At the same time the new constitution is directed at the further boosting of the cult of Mao Tse-tung, for this purpose, for example, a positive assessment of Mao Tse-tung's activity, in the form of mentioning his assumed "historical merits" are introduced into the constitution.

Concerning the present-day situation, Hua Kuo-feng's report admitted the existence of a whole number of economic problems requiring solution, and also China's technico-scientific backwardness.

Speaking of the PRC's foreign policy, Hua Kuo-feng said the Chinese Government, as before, intends to follow the Maoist conception of "three worlds" and conduct "Mao Tse-tung's foreign-policy line." In this connection he repeated stereotyped anti-Soviet sallies and the Maoist slogan of creating a so-called "broadest united front of struggle against super-power hegemonism."

Taiwan Issue Discussed

OW051001Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 3 Mar 78 OW

[Text] The U.S. press has reacted with skepticism to calls made by deputies attending the 1st session of the NPC in the PRC to Chinese armymen to prepare for the liberation of Taiwan. For instance, a New York TIMES editorial pointed out: The weapons of the Chinese Army are quite inferior and its training inadequate for carrying out such a campaign as landing on Taiwan.

Experts on Chinese affairs in the United States believe that the statements made at the NPC are merely political bluffing. All the action undertaken by the new leadership in Peking proves that it is completely resigned to the existence of the Taipei regime, which is still recognized by the United States. Taiwan conducts prosperous trade with all advanced capitalist countries. U.S. trade with Taiwan exceeds $4.8 million. It is 14 times that of U.S. trade with the PRC. China experts in the United States also point out that the call by the NPC is for domestic consumption and does not signify any change or difficulty in Sino-U.S. relations.

PRC Rehabilitation Policy

LD041917Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English for Asia 1330 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Sergey Malin commentary]

[Text] The current rehabilitation of those persecuted in the days of Mao Tse-tung's rule has been very much in the focus of foreign political observers. Lively commentaries followed the appearance at the current session of the NPC in Peking of some high-rung officials about whose whereabouts and plight nothing was known for the past 12 years. There is much speculation about the possible full rehabilitation of the former mayor of Peking, Peng Chen, who was quite a prominent figure in the first 15 years of the PRC, and also of other top officials disgraced by the Mao Tse-tung leadership. Commenting on those developments, news analyst Sergey Malin writes:

The current rehabilitation spreads not only to politicians close to the current leaders. It also concerns scientists, literary and art workers and experts in various fields. The PEOPLE'S DAILY, for instance, recently reported over 2,000 experts who were rehabilitated in the Kwangsi Province alone. Similar reports come in from other Chinese provinces. The new Peking leaders, it seems, have set out in earnest to search for the right people to implement the complex task of making China an advanced country by the year 2000. The search, however, is by far not always successful. Many of the experts did not survive the so-called labor reeducation in concentration camps and will (?by) now be unable to help their country.

Meanwhile, the dossiers of those who have survived and are still capable of working are being closely scrutinized. For the Chinese authorities want the rehabilitated specialists to be absolutely loyal to the regime. As to the destinies of the millions of the common Chinese, thrown behind bars and into concentration camps at the time of Mao's rule, well, appearances are that is considered to be a matter out of discussion. In any case none of the Chinese leaders have broached so far the subject of rehabilitating that huge mass of people who suffered from the antisocialist policies of the previous leadership. On the contrary, the current session of the NPC gave it out that some 5 percent of the Chinese are classified as class foes and opponents of the regime. So, even according to official data alone, some 40 million persons are victims of persecution in China today.

It is obvious that to admit to the innocence of all victims of the so-called Cultural Revolution and other Mao Tse-tung antisocialist campaigns would be tantamount to discrediting the great helmsman. The Chinese leaders would rather not do that and so the current rehabilitation is a very narrow-scale undertaking.

Maoist Theory Reiterated

OW051534Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 2 Mar 78 OW

[Belov commentary]

[Summary] The fifth NPC is being held in Peking. In his report on the revision of the PRC Constitution, Yeh Chien-ying emphasized the necessity of strengthening dictatorship over 5 percent of the people--the so-called "class enemies"--of the whole country.

"We must first point out that Mao Tse-tung enjoyed this sort of arithmetic very much. He often mentioned in his articles and speeches that 10 percent of the cadres were good and 5 percent of the cadres were bad; that 5 percent of the people wanted revolution and another 5 percent of the people were counterrevolutionaries; and that 5 percent of the people supported socialism and another 5 percent of the people were 'class enemies.'

"These figures were the result of his abstract inferences. They reflect Mao's selfish interests and the results have been tragic for the Chinese people and for Chinese society as a whole. It seems that the present-day leaders of China have not only totally adopted Mao's ideology and instructions, but also his vicious methods of calculation and mathematical inferences. What is the implication of saying that 5 percent of the Chinese people are 'class enemies?' To put it bluntly, this means that 40 to 45 million Chinese people are potential targets of ruthless persecution and will be excluded from Chinese society. Moreover, since there isn't any definition for 'class enemy,' it means that any Chinese individual may be labelled as a 'class enemy.'

"In fact, Peking's leaders still want to use threats to scare all the Chinese people and use all sorts of pretexts to suppress local dissidents. It has been more than a year since the purge of the so-called 'remaining followers of the gang of four,' but the campaign is far from finished. As the Chinese leaders have admitted, more than 17 million party members are 'trusted followers of the gang of four.' Official sources say that these people, who joined the party during the Cultural Revolution, have 'caused grave ideological confusion within the party, contaminated the components of the party and vulgarized the party's style of work.'"

There are of course other reasons why the Chinese leaders must continue to uphold the notorious theory that 5 percent of the Chinese people are "class enemies." For example, it has been over a year since they pledged to bring about "great order across the land," but they cannot help admitting that there is still persecution and strife within the party and have kept calling for "unity and stability" in all spheres of Chinese society. This means that "great order" is nowhere in sight. Consequently, they say that it is due to the "sabotage" of "class enemies"--the 5 percent of the Chinese people. If this 5 percent of the people does not exist, then Mao's theory of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat will become meaningless. The Chinese leaders claim that this theory is Mao's "prominent contriubtion" to Marxist theory. That is why they are so loyal to this theory and why class struggle has become the basic line of the Chinese society.

As we have shown, the assertion that 5 percent of the Chinese people are "class enemies" has been used by the Chinese leaders to strengthen the so-called "dictatorship of the proletariat." It is also in fact a means to strengthen the present regime, which emerged during the course of the antisocialist Cultural Revolution. Such a regime can exist only by suppressing the people and by the regular use of violence. Only by struggling against the dissidents and by establishing a state organ, which is high above the people, can the Chinese leaders realize Mao's plan to militarize the entire Chinese society and build the country into a gigantic military camp.

We can now see that Peking's leaders are using the theory that 5 percent of the Chinese people are "class enemies" as an excuse to persecute dissidents on a large scale. They hope that this will enable them to continue to dominate the people and consolidate their political power. However, this has precisely revealed the Maoist regime's anti-socialist nature.

SOVIET FILM SHOWS 'DISASTROUS EFFECTS' OF MAOISM

LD010426Y Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--A new documentary titled "Peking: Cause of Concern for Mankind" has premiered at Moscow cinema Oktyabr today.

It deals with the history of Soviet-Chinese friendship at the cradle of which stood V.I. Lenin, and Lenin's contacts with Sun Yat-sen.

The film shows in detail the internationalist assistance given by the Soviet people to the people of China in the course of decades. The film, which is permeated with sentiments of friendship and sympathy with the Chinese people, includes interviews with Soviet people, eyewitnesses of or direct participants in the events of the period of the Chinese people's revolutionary struggle.

Modern industries, such as aircraft, automobile and radio-engineering industries, were built up in China with Soviet assistance. The Soviet Union turned over to the PRC free of charge 24,000 sets of technical specifications. Over 250 big enterprises were built in China with Soviet assistance. The film includes statements by Chinese officials and party leaders who in their time highly appreciated this assistance.

The new film is directed by Aleksandr Medvedkin who, basing himself on documentary material, exposes the disastrous effects of Maoism, especially for the Chinese people themselves.

REPORT ON PRC ARMS SHIPMENTS TO CAMBODIA CITED

LD051448Y Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] San Francisco, March 5, TASS--According to the paper Los Angeles TIMES, a Chinese vessel recently brought to the Kampuchean port of Sihanoukville a consignment of weapons, including anti-tank missiles, heavy mortar shells, 130-mm guns, recoilless guns. The weapons were unloaded at night in great secrecy. From the port they were immediately transported to four Kampuchean divisions operating in areas bordering on Vietnam.

PONOMAREV INTERVIEWED ON BUDAPEST CONSULTATIVE MEETING

LD032026Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1730 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 3 (TANJUG)--Alternate member of the Politbureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Boris Ponomarev, who led the Soviet party delegation to the consultative meetings in Budapest, has said that this meeting will play an important role in the "further development of cooperation among the fraternal countries of socialism in the political theoretical sphere". In a statement made for the Moscow PRAVDA, Ponomarev underlines that the Soviet delegation is satisfied with the course and results of this consultative meeting.

The main subject of the meeting was the preservation of peace and the further development of political tension-easing, Ponomarev said. The participants expressed readiness to energetically act both along the political and the ideological lines in the direction of "practical activity in tension-easing", he said.

The Budapest meeting participants are united regarding solidarity with the parties in non-socialist countries, Boris Ponomarev said, coming in favor of "consolidation of their close ranks on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and on the international basis". The representatives of the ten participating parties drew attention to the need to "pay greater attention to the processes emerging in the third world", he also said.

USSR-BULGARIAN TIES DESCRIBED ON LIBERATION CENTENARY

LW031147Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[L. Kraynov article: "Flowers at the Monuments: "People's Bulgaria Prepares for a Noteworthy Anniversary"]

[Excerpts] On 3 March Bulgaria marks the 110th anniversary of liberation from the Ottoman yoke.

The republic's newspapers and journals are full of material devoted to the glorious jubilee. They note that the Russo-Turkish war was a turning point in Bulgarian history. It was a victory for progress over centuries of enslavement and feudal customs. The historical destiny of the Bulgarian people and the whole of southeast Europe changed radically.

The fraternal friendship of our two peoples, born in the depths of history and tempered in the battles for the freedom and independence of the Bulgarian people, was filled with new content after the victory of the Great October Revolution. The unforgettable September of 1944, when the Soviet Army came to Bulgaria's assistance, is the brightest page in the history of our friendship, which is now rising to a new, higher level and is characterized by increasingly close cooperation and all-round rapprochement between Bulgaria and the USSR, between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples.

"Of course, we do not think that fraternal mutual relations with the Soviet Union are some uniquely Bulgarian privilege," Todor Zhivkov writes in the forward of the album "Greetings, Brothers" [Zdravstvuyte, Bratushki]: "They are characteristic of all countries which are building a socialist society under the leadership of Marxist-Leninist parties. They will also be determining for those countries which embark on the path of socialist building tomorrow. Such are the general laws of the development of mankind and his movement toward communism.

And, if today we are fully justified in speaking of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship as an example of socialist internationalism, if we point to the birth and development of a qualitatively new type of patriotism and internationalism and the interpenetration of patriotism and internationalism, in which love for Bulgaria merges with love for the Soviet Union, this is explained to a considerable degree by the fact that the country which was the first to carry out a socialist revolution and which created the USSR was Russia--our liberator from five centuries under a foreign yoke."

The basis of the indestructible alliance of our two socialist states today is the unity and cohesion of the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party, which consistently implement a jointly elaborated course on further developing and strengthening cooperation and rapprochement between the USSR and Bulgaria. Soviet-Bulgarian economic cooperation has become an important constituent part of the multilateral cooperation of the fraternal countries of socialism which are members of CEMA within the framework of the comprehensive programe of socialist economic integration. The nuclear power station on the Danube, the "Bobov-Dol" energy complex, the Svishtov pulp combine, and the Devnaya chemicals complex, built with USSR participation, and the USSR-Bulgaria gas pipeline and other enterprises have become new monuments to Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

"Many monuments have been erected on Bulgarian land symoblizing the centuries-old friendship between our peoples--friendship which nothing has ever darkened. And alongside these monuments, which are dear to the heart of every Bulgarian and every Soviet person, modern symbols of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship have risen toward the sky, the fruits of fraternal cooperation between two socialist states--the buildings of new plants, factories and power stations, power transmission lines and much, much more," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his speech at a meeting in Sofia in September 1973.

Today Bulgaria is laying red carnations and roses at the monument of glory. Meetings and rallies are being held at enterprises, in village clubs and in palaces of culture. Banners with the words "eternal friendship" flutter in the spring.

Soviet people, celebrating together with the Bulgarian people the centenary of the fraternal country's liberation, send words of greetings to their friends. May our friendship flourish and continue to grow stronger for ever!

TITO CRITICIZES AS-SADAT IN NEW YORK TIMES INTERVIEW

LD041852Y Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 4, TASS--In an interview to the newspaper New York TIMES Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, among other problems, touched upon a number of international issues.

Speaking about the work of the Belgrade meeting of representatives of the states, parties to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the president declared in favor of its positive results.

Touching upon the situation in the Horn of Africa, Josip Broz Tito said it was obvious that Somalia intruded into Ethiopia's territory. It would be highly dangerous, if the great powers exerted pressure upon Ethiopia and gave Somalia a possibility to attain success. It would have the most unforeseen consequences, since it would cause a chain reaction in the whole of Africa.

He pointed out that almost all the new African nations had border disputes with their neighbours, since the frontiers there were set by colonialists. The African peoples therefore fear that success of the Somali intrusion could originate a process of forcible territorial changes in Africa.

The president described the Middle East situation as "very entangled". "A deadlock has occurred there", he said. "By visiting Israel, President as-Sadat has not succeeded in accomplishing anything. When something like this is undertaken, it is indispensable to assess whether realistic prospects exist for success. I do not think that the way he acted was a good way, since he had not consultated any Arab country, and this is wrong. Because Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization also fought."

The Yugoslav president said that As-Sadat did not inform him of his intention to go to Israel "otherwise I would have told him not to act so, since in that way he cannot succeed".

WARSAW MEETING ON POLISH FOREIGN POLICY REPORTED

LD281748Y Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, February 28, TASS--A meeting of central government organs has taken place here. It considered the directions and tasks of Poland's foreign policy at the present stage and in the forthcoming years, stemming from the resolutions of the second all-Polish conference of the Polish United Workers' Party and the directives of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee.

The report was delivered by the foreign minister of Poland, E. Wojtaszek. He stressed that the country was pursuing an active foreign policy. Last year, the speaker said, the forms of cooperation were enriched and the fraternal friendship, linking Poland with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, was strengthened, the coordination of their political and diplomatic efforts, aimed at easing tension and achieving disarmament, was expanded.

The summing up speech was delivered at the meeting by P. Jaroszewicz, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic. The main direction of Poland's activity in the international arena, he said, is development of relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist states, members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, with which Poland is linked by fraternal ideological-political and socio-economic bonds.

Very important is cooperation with the USSR, he said. The negotiations, held during my recent visit to the USSR, have once more confirmed the resolution of both states to develop mutually-advantageous cooperation.

SED'S WILLI STOPH ARRIVES IN MOSCOW ON WORKING VISIT

LD070916Y Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Willi Stoph, member of the Political Bureau of the SUPG Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, arrived here today for a working visit.

NEUTRON BOMB 'BLACKMAIL' IN EUROPE REJECTED BY USSR

LD0216417 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer A. Bovin: "What are the 'Humanists' Arguing About?"]

[Text] Soviet readers are well aware that the invention and possible employment of the neutron weapon are seen in the West as a manifestation of "humanism." Really. Homes are safe. The weapon is safe. Only people die, or, as the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission report says, "almost immediately lose their ability to continue to exist."

The inhuman nature of this logic is so obvious that certain awkwardness is felt even in the West. Only Washington can decide to put the neutron weapon into series production. However, for understood reasons, the U.S. President is hesitating. Clearly, he is not too keen on appearing in the eyes of the world public as a statesmen who calls for an end to the arms race and who is at the same time initiating a new twist in it.

But if somebody--to deter a potential "aggressor," of course--needed the neutron weapon and if somebody insisted on having it, then that is a different matter altogether. Washington's argument, DER SPIEGEL reports, boils down to the fact that "the area in which the new warhead is most likely to be used is the territory of Western Europe, above all the FRG. Therefore Washington will start producing only when the Europeans consent to the deployment and possible employment of the neutron weapon on their territory." Primarily, on the territory of the FRG--let us emphasize in the light of what DER SPIEGEL said.

So, the main political responsiblity rests with Bonn. As far as the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] is concerned, there is of course no problem. Those who share Strauss' views reject out of hand any humanism which might be present. They are ready to accept the responsibility and are urging the government to "apply" for the production of the neutron weapon with its subsequent deployment on the territory of the FRG.

The position of the Free Democratic Party [FDP] is less clear-cut. If the United States decides to produce this weapon then the FDP, a statement by the Free Democrats' Bundestag faction says, "will support serious efforts by the Atlantic alliance to include the neutron weapon issue in the discussion at the strategic arms limitation talks." If there is no success after 2 years of talks, the neutron weapon can be deployed in Western Europe, only on the following conditions:

1. NATO members must achieve "the fullest possible agreement" on this matter and this weapon must be deployed in the other NATO member states as well. This is understandable. Everybody must be responsible: something like a concept of "collective humanism."

2. The use of the neutron bomb must be "dependent on political decisions" within the consultative framework among NATO members, and the voices of those whom this concerns most must carry the "greatest weight." This is understandable also. It applies to the FRG and its "right" to participate in the adoption of suicidal decisions.

3. Finally, the "flexible possibilities" of the use of the neutron bomb must not lead to the "premature employment of 'nuclear weapons'" and lowering of the nuclear threshold. This is impossible to understand, since the whole idea behind the employment of the neutron weapon consists in its "premature" employment.

What about the government? An official spokesman, K. Boelling, stated: "The forthcoming decisions on the production of the neutron weapon are exclusively a matter for the United States. In accordance with established practice, decisions on the production of nuclear weapons are a matter for the state which possesses the nuclear weapon". However, the question of incorporating this weapon in the Atlantic "defense potential" is a topic of discussion within the framework of NATO. Before "the point of the deployment of the neutron weapon in Europe is reached," the federal government will do its utmost to achieve appropriate progress at the arms control talks.

Thus, on the Rhine there are no objections to the production of the neutron weapon. They are merely insisting that Washington bear the full political responsibility. So far as one can gather from Boelling's statement, Bonn does not object in principle to the deployment of the neutron weapon on FRG territory. A strange logic is used on the Rhine. No side has yet armed itself with the neutron weapon. The normal approach would be to say: Let us agree that neither the United States nor the USSR produces this weapon or equips its forces with it. This is precisely what the Soviet Union said. But we are receiving no direct answer. Instead, we are given to understand that if the Soviet Union agrees unilaterally to reduce its conventional armed forces then maybe the West will not deploy the neutron weapon. However blackmail, even using such "humane" methods as the neutron weapon, is blackmail nonetheless. And it is futile to use that kind of language when talking to the Soviet Union....

London's THE TIMES has also joined in the argument over the neutron weapon. The paper agrees that people "with normal human feelings" are revolted by the neutron weapon.... There should, of course, be a big "but" after this. And there is. But, THE TIMES' "humanists" reason, the neutron bomb should not be rejected "merely on grounds of revulsion." The thing is, according to the London "humanists," that the decision to use the neutron bomb "would be easier to take than the decision to use other types of tactical nuclear weapons because the neutron bomb is...slightly less likely to push the conflict over the brink into general nuclear war." Consequently, THE TIMES concludes, considering all the pros and cons, the argument turns in favor of continuing work on the neutron bomb. As for the aforementioned "revulsion," it is clearly a relic which is perhaps worth mentioning but is obviously not worth bothering about...

In order to agree with the concept of humanism upheld by THE TIMES it is necessary to prove that the neutron weapon reduces the likelihood of total nuclear war. This cannot be proved. Only naive people can believe that use of the neutron nuclear weapon will not result in the use of other types of nuclear weapons. The very "ease" with which the decision to use the neutron weapon can be taken means an actual lowering of the nuclear threshold and an increase in the likelihood of a general nuclear war. The "humane nature" of the neutron weapon ultimately results in an increase in the threat of destruction of millions of people.

So, the real political consequences of neutron weapon deployment in Western Europe can consist only in a reduction in security on the continent and a general deterioration of the European political climate.

And, instead of hiding beneath the umbrella of arguments about how to insure the even more "humane" use of a weapon that is "humane" to begin with, it is useful to look this reality in the face.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S., FRG OVER ECONOMICS EXPLAINED

DW031024Y Moscow in German to German 1743 GMT 2 Mar 78 DW

[Valentin Zakharov commentary]

[Text] Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, I am telling you no secret if I say that the differences between Bonn and Washington in matters of economic and financial policy are quite profound today. Otto Count Lambsdorff, Bonn's minister of economics, learned this during his recent visit to Washington. Voices on the part of high-ranking officials in the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the State Department were described by him as ranging from cool to hostile.

The U.S. demand on Bonn to allow more inflation so as to crank up the economic development on the Rhine is at odds with the stability policy of the Bonn Government. Economics Minister Count Lambsdorff discovered many traps in the U.S. demand on Bonn, and he also made the FRG position clear, to be sure. Yet, his arguments were not accepted, and the Bonn Government was asked once again to allow more inflation in its economic policy. This is why there is no doubt in Washington that Secretary of the Treasury Blumenthal is not the only inflation preacher who will make a trip to Bonn from Washington.

It is not hard to imagine that Washington is toying with ulterior motives in its inflation program in connection with the dollar decline. The press on the Rhine finds that the Americans with their inflation program are enriching themselves at the expense of the others whose exports become more and more expensive. Thus, dollar policy and the demand on the competitor to allow more inflation become the lever of U.S. power politics which, though cloaking itself with advocacy of world trade, basically wants to insure that its own interests prevail.

Thus, the friendly title "liberalization of world trade", has been used to wrap up a demand which, if implemented, would hit the exports of the Federal Republic of Germany on their sore spot. The West Europeans, above all the strong FRG exports, under the U.S. demand are to establish international competitive equality. For this purpose they are to delete all existing export preferences. In the opinion of the United States such a preference is, for example, the indemnification for added-value tax granted the FRG enterprises for the export of their products. If this were abolished the United States could further inflate and would thus be lower-priced than the Federal Republic in one stroke.

The goal of this U.S. policy toward the Federal Republic is transparent: The trade surplus of the Federal Republic is to be mitigated through a reduction in exports and an increase in imports, since in the U.S. view the Federal Republic's trade surplus does not fit into the international landscape. This also makes it clear that the U.S. demand on Bonn to allow more inflation is based on the U.S. strategy of the struggle for sales markets. Hence, Washington wants to keep the competitive FRG enterprises away from the U.S. companies.

Therefore it is an established fact by now that the commandment to make profits will further aggravate the competitive struggle of the monopolies. And this competitive struggle will be waged on the back of the working people. In the United States this struggle entails an inflation rate of 6.8 percent and an unemployment rate of 6.3 percent at the moment. And as a consequence of the competitive struggle the German mark, measured by the internal cost of living index, has already shrunk by half.

FAILING U.S. DOLLAR THREATENS W. GERMAN EXPORT MARKET

LD041159Y Moscow TASS in English 1134 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

["Mounting Discontent"--TASS headline]

[Text] Bonn, March 4, TASS--The drop in the dollar rate threatens the very existence of a number of West German firms depending on the export of their products, writes FRG Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff in an article for the newspaper ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG (Mainz) transmitted by the DPA agency on Friday. He notes that the "obvious overstatement" of the cost of the West German mark is conducive to a considerable growth of the prices of products of some branches of FRG's economy working for export.

Quite a few public speeches have been recently made by representatives of government and trade and economic circles of the FRG, expressing frank dissatisfaction with the situation which has emerged in the monetary-financial field of the Western countries. A clear striving of the USA to use the drop in the dollar rate in the competition struggle against its West European trade rivals.

The dollar fever undermines in the first place the financial system of the FRG as its monetary reserves consist chiefly of U.S. dollars. The FRG Federal German Bank is forced to buy the depreciated dollars at a loss. According to the available figures, the FRG's direct losses as a result of machinations in the stock markets make 7,880 million marks.

The interests of influential FRG monopoly groups have been damaged, as more than a half of the shipbuilding and machine-building products and a third of the chemical products are shipped abroad. By curtailing production, employers strive to make good for the losses incurred in manpower. It has been estimated that industry in the FRG annually loses up to 80 thousand work-places as a result of dollar machinations sending up the cost of export goods.

DUTCH DEFENSE MINISTER RESIGNS IN NEUTRON BOMB PROTEST

LD051328Y Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The Hague, March 5, TASS--Dutch Defence Minister Roelof Kruisinga resigned in token of protest against the refusal by the country's government to express a negative attitude to the plans for the production of neutron bomb and deployment of that dangerous variety of nuclear weapons in the territory of Western Europe.

In a letter to the prime minister of Holland, Roelof Kruisinga expressed disagreement with the stand of the government which, in his words, declares for NATO countries to use the question of the deployment of neutron weapons as a bargaining counter at the talks on disarmament.

Last week Roelof Kruisinga said in parliament that Holland must prevent the inclusion of the neutron bomb in NATO arsenal.

The country's foreign minister, however, hurried to describe R. Kruisinga's utterance as not reflecting the government's stand.

The Dutch defence minister's resignation in protest against the plans to equip NATO with neutron weapons occured a day prior to the expected arrival of NATO Secretary-General Luns in the country. As is known, Luns, in order to please Washington, is trying to persuade the European allies of the USA into agreeing to the deployment of that new variety of weapons of mass destruction in their territory.

SWEDISH NEWSPAPER CONDEMNS 'ARTIC EXPRESS' EXERCISE

LD031442Y Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Stockholm, March 3 TASS--The Swedish newspaper NORSKENFLAMMAN has resolutely condemned the NATO "Artic Express" military exercises being held in the north of Norway. Describing these exercises as provocative, the newspaper noted that the participation in them of West German soldiers running counter to the striving for detente deserves special condemnation.

Norway, NORSKENFLAMMAN recalls, made a reservation when joining the NATO that in peacetime the armed forces of the FRG will never be stationed on the Norwegian soil, but was then forced to yield to the pressure of the FRG and the USA.

BRIEFS

USSR-NETHERLANDS COOPERATION TALKS--Moscow, February 24, TASS--The third session of the mixed Soviet-Netherlands commission on cooperation in the economic, industrial and technical fields ended here today after discussing questions of business relations between the USSR and the Netherlands. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD]

FRG-USSR FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES--In Moscow today a cooperation plan for 1978 was signed between the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, the USSR-FRG Society and the federation of FRG-USSR societies. It provides for the further development of friendly and cultural links between the peoples of the two countries. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD]

COOPERATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION--Moscow, February 24, TASS--Gennadiy Aleksenko, vice-chairman of the State Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers for Science and Technology, received today Mostafa Tolba, U.N. deputy secretary general and executive director of the U.N. Environmental Program (UNEP). They discussed the further development of cooperation in environmental protection between the USSR and UNEP. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD]

KUWAITI MINISTER CALLS ON OPEC TO RAISE OIL PRICES

LD032154Y Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 3, TASS--'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-Atiqi, Kuwaiti minister of finance, today called on petroleum-exporting countries to raise oil prices. In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN, the minister emphasised that the necessity of the step is explained by the unceasing decline in the cost of the U.S. dollar which is the currency of account in the purchase and sale of oil.

Al-Atiqi said Kuwait got into touch with other petroleum-exporting countries with a view toconvening an extraordinary conference of the OPEC to reconsider prices. Earlier, the OPEC decided to freeze oil prices for the first half of this year.

LEBANESE PAPER ON U.S. THREATS AGAINST OIL COUNTRIES

LD031636Y Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

["Growing Apprehension"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beirut, March 3 TASS--The U.S. threats against Arab oil-producing countries are giving rise to apprehensions by the progressive Arab public. The Lebanese newspaper ASH-SHA'B draws attention to the fact that these threats have become especially frequent lately at the time when some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) have begun to realise how much they are losing because of their unequal relations with Western countries in the sphere of oil trade. The paper writes that the United States strives to speak in the language of threats with those of its trade partners that want to increase oil prices. In the opinion of many Arab observers, the "oil war" has actually already started. For this reason it is not accidental that the United States is threatening oil-extracting countries with intervention and freezing (?of their assets in) U.S. banks which has reached a total of 300 billion dollars. The United States annually imports 45 billion dollars worth of oil from OPEC countries. It makes huge profits at the expense of oil extracting countries and is using their natural wealth to envig[illegible] its own economy and in its rivalry with other imperialist states. Those who think that U.S. friendship is unselfish and based on the principle of equality, the paper stresses, ought to realize that when interests of American monopolies are affected friendship is totally out of the question.

U.S. FAILS TO INVOLVE JORDAN IN EGYPT-ISRAEL TALKS

LD042106Y Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Amman, March 4, TASS--The efforts of the U.S. diplomacy to involve Jordan in the separate talks between Egypt and Israel proved futile. During the talks with the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Atherton, King Husayn of Jordan said that "a just [illegible] in the Middle East can be achieved only under the condition of complete withdrawal [illegible] Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands and recognition of the lawful rights [illegible] Palestinian Arab people, including their right to self-determination."

Unless the Israeli authorities recognize these fundamental demands, Jordan will reject any plan of the Middle East settlement, King Husayn said.

AS-SADAT OPPOSES RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE

LD0515504Y Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 5, TASS--In an interview with the OKTOBER magazine, Egyptian President as-Sadat spoke against the resumption of the Geneva Middle East conference which, as he asserted, was not successful in the past and may go on without any progress for decades.

In the interview President as-Sadat set out his capitulatory stand which is directed against the common interests of Arab peoples and pursues the aim of strengthening U.S.-Israeli influence in the Middle East.

'ARAFAT DENOUNCES EGYPT'S ANTI-PALESTINIAN CAMPAIGN

LD041520Y Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 4, TASS--Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has sent a message to the Arab heads of state. In the message he calls upon them to exert efforts in order to make the Egyptian authorities terminate an unprecedented anti-Palestinian campaign, unleashed in the country.

The As-Sadat regime is known to have used the assassination in Cyprus on February 18 of Yusuf as-Siba'i, general secretary of the Organization for Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, and the subsequent seizure of a group of participants in Nicosia's session of the Presidium of the Organization for Afri-Asian People's Solidarity as a pretext for fanning up in Egypt an anti-Palestinian hysteria and for justifying its traitorous course towards the interests of the Arab people of Palestine. Behind the actions of the Egyptian Government, which deprived the Palestinians living in the country of all rights they enjoyed as victims of the Israeli aggression, is As-Sadat's obvious irritation at the principled stand of the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which turned down point-blank the Egyptian president's anti-Arab course for a separate settlement with Israel.

In the message to the Arab heads of state, Yasir 'Arafat on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization denounced the action staged by terrorists in Cyprus and reaffirmed that the Palestine resistance movement had nothing to do with that action. He also emphasized that the Egyptian authorities are wholly and entirely responsible for the tragic outcome of the attack made by Egyptian commandoes at Larnaca's airport, where a plane with terrorists and hostages aboard was located. The Egyptian authorities arranged that senseless venture that cost the lives of its 15 participants.

The chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization accused As-Sadat of the desire to use the Cyprus incident to set the Egyptian public opinion against the Palestinian people and to damage their struggle for their inalienable national rights. He expressed the apprehension that the anti-Palestinian measures announced in Egypt might entail steps even more dangerous for the Palestinians.

WAR FLARES UP AGAIN IN SOUTH LEBANON

LD041618Y Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Correspondent Leonid Volnov reports: War has again flared out in the south of Lebanon. In the past two days Israeli troops repeatedly made attempts to occupy the Marun ar-Ra's village, located at the very frontier. Having intruded into the Lebanese territory, they created in the area of the village fortified positions and moved tank units to the village. But the Israelies were thrown back from Marun ar-Ra's as a result of resolute actions of units of the national-patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement. A "Superchieftan" tank and two armoured carriers were destroyed in the fighting. 13 Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded.

Angered by the failure the Israeli troops subjected the towns of Bint Jubayl and Tyre to intensive rocket and artillery bombardment. The bombardment was accompanied by movemetns of Israeli mechanized units, flights of war planes and intrusions of gunboats and launches into Lebanon's territorial waters.

As is reported by the newspaper AS-SAFIR, Israel continues concentrating its troops, including tank and artillery units, in the areas of Manarah and Ra's al-Ingliz. The areas of Hiyam, Ibu as-Saqy, and Nabatiyah and other areas are being subjected to heavy gunfire. A multitude of dwelling houses were destroyed. Schools and institutions suspended work in frontier settlements, the residents spending most of the time in bomb-shelters.

Political observers link Israel's escalation of tension in the south of Lebanon with plans of imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction which seek to distract the attention from the planned Egyptian-Israeli separate deal.

Shelling of Villages

LD051810Y Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 5, TASS--Israel continues to ignite tension in south Lebanon. On Saturday night Israeli military gunboats shelled from the sea the south Lebanese villages of Saraf and and Adlun, situated thirty kilometres away from the Lebanese-Israeli border. The shelling lasted half an hour.

DAMASCUS MEETING MARKS PALESTINE FRONT ANNIVERSARY

LD031824Y Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 3, TASS--A mass meeting, devoted to the ninth anniversary of the Democratic Palestine Liberation Front, has been held here. It was attended by functionaries of the front, representatives of the Al-Fatah, As-Sa'iqah and other detachments of the Palestine resistance movement, Chairman of the Palestine National Council Khalid al-Fahum, some members of the PLO Executive Committee, leaders of the ruling Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and of the Syrian Communist Party.

In their speeches the representatives of different parties and organizations congratulated the Democratic Palestine Liberation Front on the memorable date and noted the front's important contribution to the just struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for their rights, to the cause of strengthening the unity of the rank of the Palestine revolution, elaboration of a clearcut programme of action, and also to the strengthening of the Palestine revolution's ties with the progressive forces in the Arab states and in the international arena, primarily with the Soviet Union and other states of the socialist community.

A lengthy speech was delivered at the meeting by N. Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Palestine Liberation Front.

Hawatimah Call for Unity

LD041440Y Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 4, TASS--The Arab people of Palestine are fully determined to continue the struggle till a just and durable peace is established in the Middle East. This has been stated here by General Secretary of the Democratic Palestine Liberation Front N. Hawatimah, speaking at a mass meeting on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of its foundation. Such a peace, he stressed, can be established only provided full withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all 1967 occupied Arab lands, the exercise of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and the right to have their own independent state. The Palestinian revolution, he said, with the support of the progressive forces of the world, is capable of ensuring defense of the rights of the Palestinian people, and does not need guardianship from Saudi Arabia, Egypt or any other countries with reactionary regimes.

N. Hawatimah strongly criticized the capitulatory course of Egyptian President as-Sadat, whose actions are detrimental not only to the interests of the Egyptian people but also to the interests of all Arab countries.

In collusion with the United States, Israel, Saudi Arabia, the Somali and other reactionary regimes, As-Sadat is trying to suppress the progressive forces in the Arab world and in the African Continent, he said.

The general secretary of the Democratic Palestine Liberation Front noted that jointly with the United States Saudi Arabi seeks to play the role of a world gendarme. It allocates hundreds millions dollars, received from oil exports, for the struggle against progressive forces in Arab countries and in other parts of the globe. Petrodollars of Saudi Arabia, invested into the U.S. economy, he said, arm not only the Israeli aggressor but also the Somali regime, which is used by Saudi Arabia, the United States and other reactionary forces for struggle against Ethiopia.

N. Hawatimah called for unity of the ranks of the progressive patriotic forces in the Arab world and in the African Continent. He called for consolidation of their relations with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community. In this connection he noted the importance of the formation of the Arab front of staunchness and resistance for giving a rebuff to imperialism, Zionism and reaction and emphasized the need for further strengthening the front on the basis of a concrete programme of action.

ARAB JOURNALISTS WELCOME STAND OF SOVIET UNION

LD031934Y Moscow TASS in English 1701 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 3, TASS--We welcome the stand of the Soviet Union and other socialist states, of all the forces of peace and progress in respect to the just struggle waged by the Arab peoples against Zionism and American imperialism, says the resolution of the extraordinary conference of the Federation of Arab Journalists, held in Baghdad.

The conference participants urged all the progressive journalist organizations to condemn the terror and repressions perpetrated by the Israeli authorities against the Arab population in the Israeli-occupied territories. They criticized the capitulatory course of As-Sadat, aimed at concluding a separate deal with the Zionists, and characterized it as one more link in the chain of the plots hatched by imperialism, Zionism and reaction against the Arab nation.

The journalists declared their invariable support to the just cause of the Palestine resistance movement and condemned the perfidious course of certain Arab states, aimed at liquidating the Palestine problem. They demanded the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied territories and the recognition of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination. The participants of the conference approved the decisions of the general Arab People's Congress in Tripoli and called for broad support to the efforts of the front of progressive Arab states, which are coming out against the capitulatory plans for settling the Middle Eastern problem.

SOVIET SPECIALISTS HELP WITH LIBYAN POWER INDUSTRY

LD042229Y Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 4, TASS--Vast tasks of raising further the national economy were set before Libya by the five-year plan of social and economic development in 1976-1980. A vast energy basis that is being created in Libya will help fulfil a broad programme of the five-year period. It will provide electricity for dozens of industrial enterprises and farm projects under construction and will supply electricity for the needs of the population. Over the past [word indistinct] years of the five-year period, the government spent 300 million Libyan dinars for the development of power generation.

Soviet specialists help Libya establish the base for the national power industry. The construction of a new high-voltage line is being conducted with Soviet assistance 100 km south of the Libyan capital in the area of the town of Az-Zahrah. It will combine separate electric transmission lines into a single power grid of Tripolitania and will ensure a steady supply of power to this large area.

BARRE ENDS LIBYA VISIT, RETURNS TO SOMALIA

LD041221Y Moscow TASS in English 1112 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 3, TASS--The GDR news agency ADN reports:

Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre ended his three-day visit to Libya on Thursday and returned to Mogadiscio.

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the secretary-general of the Libyan General People's Congress, and President Barre discussed African and international issues, according to the Libyan news agency JANA.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON CONFLICT IN HORN OF AFRICA

Responsibility of United States

LD031952Y Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, March 3 TASS--According to information reaching here, NATO's military activity markedly increased lately in the area of the Horn of Africa, including that in the field of deliveries of armaments to Somalia. Such an interference by imperialist powers in the Ethiopian-Somali conflict considerably impairs possibilities for a peaceful settlement and exacerbates the crisis situation.

The increase in the deliveries of Western arms to Somalia which unleashed an aggressive war against Ethiopia was sanctioned at the conference of representatives of five NATO countries--the USA, the FRG, France, Britain, and Italy--in Washington on January 22. According to the Paris newspaper LE MONDE, "at the meeting the Americans gave consent to those of their allies that intended to arm Mogadiscio."

At the same time large batches of arms of American make are re-exported to Somalia from Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt and other countries, with Washington attentively seeing to it that there are no interruptions in such re-export. This is illustrated, in particular, by an article which appeared in the Washington POST today and which expresses concern over the fact that Iran which, during the recent talks with the United States promised, according to the newspaper to supply Somalia with arms does not always scrupulously meet its commitments.

So, despite Washington's official assurances that the United States does not supply arms to Mogadiscio, in actual fact American military hardware does reach Somalia. This is also evidenced, in particular, by an exhibition of captured military equipment, among which weapons of American make predominate. The exhibition opened in Addis Ababa recently.

Dissociating itself from such deliveries the USA virtually shields these deliveries effected from third countries and is steering matters to exciting and aggravating the situation in the area of the Horn of Africa. Moreover, as as admitted by the New York DAILY NEWS newspaper, the Pentagon generals insist on an increase in the military aid to Somalia and demand the dispatch of American military advisers there, apart from a huge amount of arms, to show the Somalis how to use the weapons effectively.

Thus, the responsibility for the aggravation of the situation in the area of the Horn of Africa rests with the United States, with the knowledge of which arms are delivered to Somalia through third countries.

At the same time the interests of a genuine settlement of the conflict in the area of the Horn of Africa require immediate cessation of hostilities and complete withdrawal of the Somali troops from Ethiopian territory, and not an increase in military deliveries to Mogadiscio, deliveries which only add fuel to the fire and encourage the Somali aggressors to continuation and expansion of the war.

Allies of Somalia

LD031924Y Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 3, TASS--An article, published by the newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, testifies to the deep involvement of several Middle Eastern states in the conflict on the Horn of Africa on the side of the Somalian aggressors. The article says that Egypt gives all-out support to Somalia in the war against Ethiopia, having placed at the disposal of the Somalian leaders, apart from weapons, approximately two thousand Egyptian servicemen. Furthermore, the paper states, Egypt and certain other allies of Somalia may even risk a "military intervention" with a view to saving the Mogadiscio regime from collapse.

Lagos, March 3, TASS--The Nigerian newspaper PUNCH exposes the unseemly role played by the reactionary Middle Eastern regimes in the Somalian aggression against Ethiopia.

Touching on the large arms shipments to Somalia, on the threats of Saudi Arabia and other regimes against Ethiopia, the newspaper stresses that this hatred is aroused, primarily, by the firm resolution of Ethiopia to uphold its sovereignty and territorial integrity, threatened by the Somalian expansion.

In conformity with the principles recognized by all the members of the Organization of African Unity, the newspaper notes, Ethiopia has the inalienable right to the inviolability of her territory. The present sabre-rattling, to which the Arab reaction resorts, constitutes a threat to peace in the African Continent and betrayal of the African states, which had made sacrifices for the sake of the interests of the Arab peoples.

Soviet, Cuban Role

LD031326Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Rome, March 3 TASS--Over four years after the revolution, Ethiopia has been subjected to constant attacks by its enemies who seek to isolate and destroy it. For this purpose they support the counterrevolutionary groupings of every stripe. But despite the enemies' intrigues, the Ethiopian revolution continues winning ever new victories, Ethiopia's foreign minister, Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, said at a press conference here.

Suffering a fiasco in its attempts to nip our revolution in the bud, world imperialism and Arab reaction turned to Somalian leaders who, as is well known, have expansionist aspirations, Feleke Gedle-Giorgis said. Blinded with chauvinism and encouraged by financial, material, political and military backing from the imperialists and the reactionary Arab regimes, the Somalian leaders unleashed a war of aggression against Ethiopia.

The war in the Ogaden is fought between the Somalian troops that invaded the country and the Ethiopian Armed Forces that are defending their own country. Somalia makes claims to Ethiopian territory and also to the territory of Djibouti and a part of Kenya.

There is no enmity or any substantial differences between the Ethiopian and Somalian peoples, and we hope that peace will shortly be restored which will lead to the development of the relations of cooperation between the two countries and peoples, the minister said. But peace in the Horn of Africa cannot be established until Somalia withdraws immediately all its troops invading the Ethiopian territory.

The Soviet Union and Cuba, acting fully in accordance with the spirit of the United Nations' Charter, help us fight against the Somalian aggressor, Feleke Gedle-Giorgis said. We try to settle all international disputes in the framework of the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, which hold that war is not a method of deciding international conflicts. But Somalia violated these provisions, the minister said. Ethiopia, on its part, has no territorial claims to anyone.

Ethiopian Message to Obasanjo

LD051418Y Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 5, TASS--Peace and security of the countries situated in the Horn of Africa can be ensured only provided the troops of Somalia completely and unconditionally withdraw from the Ethiopian territory. The people of Ethiopia can not agree to talks with representatives of Mogadiscio as long as the aggressor troops are on Ethiopian soil, said Berhanu Baye, member of the Permanent Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) of Ethiopia, head of the foreign relations department of the PMAC. He spoke here after his return from Lagos where he delivered a special message from Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC chairman, to Olusegun Obasanjo, chairman of the committee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) for settling the Somali-Ethiopian conflict, the head of the Federal Military Government of Nigeria.

Berhanu Baye noted the importance of the OAU in the efforts to stop the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and solve the problem of withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory and called on African states to firmly condemn the aggressive war which Somalia unleashed against Ethiopia.

Imperialist powers and reactionary Arab regimes, the PMAC representative said, give every support to the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio with a view to increasing the aggression and in every way seek to undermine the Ethiopian revolution and territorial integrity of the country. In this critical moment the wait-and-see attitude of a number of African states towards the Somali aggression is running counter to the interests of Africa and is leading to the weakening of the OAU and serves as an encouragement to new expansionist ventures, he emphasized.

As far as Ethiopia is concerned, Berhanu Baye went on to say, it firmly and consistently strives to settle the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa, and after the Somali troops withdraw from its territory is ready to discuss with Somalia ways of establishment of peaceful goodneighbourly relations, joint utilisation of border rivers, the problems of strengthening the OAU and ensuring a lasting peace in the Horn of Africa.

Recapture of Jijiga

LD051900Y Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] London, March 5, TASS--According to a statement by the Ethiopian Embassy in London, Ethiopian troops liberated the strategically important town of Jijiga in Harrage Province from the Somali aggressors who had invaded Ethiopia. The armed forces and detachments of the people's militia are in full control of the town and surrounding areas, an embassy spokesman said. He spoke also of the successful advance of Ethiopian troops on every front.

The spokesman confirmed that Ethiopia has no territorial claims and respects internationally recognized borders. Ethiopia, he said, is prepared to negotiate with Somalia, but only after all Somali troops are withdrawn from Ethiopian territory.

MENGISTU TO ADDRESS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MEETING

LD042236Y Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4, TASS--The festivities devoted to the International Women's Day were started here today with a broad programme of sports and cultural events held in the central stadium of the Ethiopian capital. They were organized by the women's section at the Ethipian [word indistinct] affairs of mass organization. They will be concluded on March 8 in a mass meeting in the Square of the Revolution which will be attended by Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Speaking at a mass meeting at the stadium, a representative of the women's section pointed to the growing activity of the Ethiopian women in deciding the country's political, economic and social problems.

Delegations of many countries, including the Soviet Union, Cuba, GDR, Tanzania, participate in the measures preceding the celebration of the International Women's Day.

AGRARIAN REFORMS ANNIVERSARY MARKED IN ETHIOPIA

LD041918Y Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Ustimenko reports:

The Ethiopian working people mark today the third anniversary of the radical agrarian reform that has become an important stage of the development of the Ethiopian revolution and consolidation of the people's power. The measures taken in rural areas by the Provisional Military Administrative Council have resulted in the liquidation of large landed estates and in the transfer of land to those who till it. Feudal taxes and extortion have been eliminated, and opportunities have been created for increasing of agricultural output and for consolidation of the national economy. New organs of the revolutionary power, peasant associations, have been formed in the Ethiopian rural areas.

During the rule of the feudal-monarch regime that was overthrown by the people's revolution in September 1974, over half of the peasants, who account for nearly 90 per cent of the country's population, had to rent their plots of land and to turn over to the land owners up to two-thirds of the harvests. Rightlessness, poverty and hunger were the lot of the toilers in rural areas and hundreds of thousands of people were perishing from famine.

The land reform put an end to the semi-slavery that was the lot of peasants and thus released the productive forces of the Ethiopian rural areas. There are now in Ethiopia over 25 thousand peasant associations uniting nearly seven million people. They decide the problems of land distribution and a wide range of administrative matters and also conduct an active struggle against the enemies of the revolution and a broad political, educatory and organizing work among the working people. In many areas, peasant associations develop into production associations. There are over 2,000 peasants cooperatives in Ethiopia. [Word indistinct] about 100 thousand landless, unemployed people were given jobs in agriculture in recent years and 20 thousand families of nomadic cattle breeders adopted a settled way of life.

Former landed estates and large firms that belonged to aristocracy and foreign capital were transformed into state economies. The lands the [word indistinct] were widened by 14 thousand hectares on the previous year, and the number of permanent workers increased by 150 per cent. The state economies intend to cultivate nearly 30 thousand hectares of virgin lands and to create enterprises for initial processing of agricultural raw materials. The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community give the revolutionary Ethiopia great assistance in implementing these plans.

ETHIOPIAN-SUDANESE COMMITTEE TO BE RECONVENED

LD041854Y Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4, TASS--Ethiopia is ready for resumption of the work of the joint Ethiopian-Sudanese Consultative Committee. This has been stated here by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provinsional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia. He spoke at a meeting with Sierra Leone's foreign minister, Abdulai Conteh, who presented him a special message from President Siaka Stevens.

Questions of relations between Ethiopia and the Sudan were discussed, and an agreement was reached on convocation of the joint Ethiopian-Sudanese Consultative Committee. The (?date) and the venue will be specified by the Sierra Leone-headed special OAU commission on settlement of relations between the Sudan and Ethiopia.

SOVIET FISHERIES MINISTER ENDS ANGOLA VISIT

LD032342Y Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 3, TASS--Aleksandr Ishkov, minister of fisheries of the USSR, who has been here on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Government of the PRA since February 24, left Luanda. At the capital's airport he was seen off by Antonio da Costa Lopes da Camara, the PRA minister of fisheries, and by other Angolan officials. While in the People's Republic of Angola, the USSR minister of fisheries was received by Agostinho Neto, chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party, president of the PRA, and by Lopo do Nascimento, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Workers' Party, prime minister of the PRA.

At the talk, the fisheries ministers of the two countries summed up the frutful results of Soviet-Angolan cooperation in the field of fisheries over the past two years and mapped out ways for further development of fraternal contacts between the USSR and the PRA in this field. A protocol of the second session of the Soviet-Angolan mixed commission for the implementation of the agreement between the PRA and the USSR in the field of fisheries was signed as a result of the talks.

CUBA, ANGOLA SIGN POLITICAL, INFORMATION ACCORDS

LD042135Y Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 4, TASS--Two agreements on cooperation in the sphere of political education and revolutionary guidance were signed between the MPLA-Workers' Party and the Communist Party of Cuba. The first agreement envisages a regular exchange of delegations and experience of the work in the sphere of political education. Under this agreement, the Cuban side will send teachers for party schools in the People's Republic of Angola. The second agreement deals with questions of cooperation of the two parties in the sphere of propaganda and information.

ANGOLAN PARTY PROGRAM GUIDED BY MARXISM-LENINISM

LD041215Y Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 4, TASS--The publication of the programme of the MPLA-Workers Party adopted by the first party congress last December has been started in the People's Republic of Angola. This most important document of the Angolan revolution reaffirms the socialist choice of the People's Republic of Angola, its anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist line. Our aim, says the programme, is to create in Angola a just socialist society free from exploitation of man by man. The document stresses the striving of the MPLA-Workers Party to be guided in the whole of its activity by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

This Marxist-Leninist party of the working class, the document notes, unites the finest representatives of the working class, peasantry, revolutionary intelligentsia and other working people dedicated to the cause of the proletariat. The MPLA-Workers' Party, the programme goes on to write, is the guiding force of the Angolan state and society. It resolutely comes out against imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism, for the socialist development of the country. As the programme notes, the party draws its strength in the Marxist-Leninist theory, in the experience of the revolutionary struggle of Angola, of all the progressive forces of the world and above all the socialist states. They are precisely the countries, where the working class guided by its vanguard--the communist and workers' parties--has put an ultimate end to exploitation and oppression, that are today, as in the past, the most reliable support of our struggle.

Text Published

LD061040Y Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] Luanda, March 6, TASS--The newspaper JORNAL DE ANGOLA has started publishing the text of the programme of the MPLA-Workers Party. This document, adopted by the first party congress last December, reaffirms Angola's choice of the socialist road of development.

SWAPO STATEMENT BLAMES PRETORIA FOR BREAKDOWN OF TALKS

LD031958Y Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 3 TASS--The South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) resolutely denied the slanderous assertions of the South African regime that the freedom fighters reject the peaceful solution of the Namibian problem. The statement of this patriotic organisation, circulated here, says that the Pretoria authorities are striving to put the blame on SWAPO for the failure of the New York negotiations on the future of Namibia, accusing it of obstinacy and unwillingness to solve the Namibian problem by peaceful means. The Vorster regime, the statement notes, fears to tell the truth to the South African people and to world public opinion that Roelof Botha turned down in New York all the proposals of the five Western states and did not make a single step to meet the lawful demands of the SWAPO: to withdraw the occupation troops from the territory of Namibia, to release the political prisoners, to renounce the annexation of the Namibian port of Walvis Bay.

The SWAPO comes out for the creation in Namibia of a fair, classless society in which the people would be able to elect their own representatives. Radical social reforms are possible in the country only with the support of the broad popular masses. It is only because all the attempts to grant genuine independence to Namibia in a peaceful way are suffering a fiasco that SWAPO continues the armed struggle, the statement notes.

Struggle To Continue

LD032330Y Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, 3 Mar, TASS--The South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) will carry on the armed struggle till complete liberation of their motherland, since all attempts to achieve genuine independence by peaceful means are sustaining a failure. In a statement issued in Lusaka the SWAPO is resolutely rejecting the slanderous assertions by the South African regime that the fighters for freedom reject a peaceful way of solution to the problem of Namibia, which is illegally occupied by the racists of the Republic of South Africa. The Pretoria authorities are trying to lay the blame on the SWAPO for the failure of the talks in New York on the future of Namibia. In doing so, the Pretoria authorities, however, are in every way concealing the fact that the racist minister of foreign affairs, Roelof Botha, declined to satisfy to the patriots' legitimate demands for the withdrawal of all occupation troops from Namibia's territory, for the release of political prisoners, and renunciation of the illegal annexation of Walvis Bay port.

The South-West Africa People's Organisation, the statement emphasises, comes out for the establishment in Namibia of a just society in which people would have an opportunity to decide their future themselves.

SOUTH AFRICAN ANC LEADER URGES INCREASED STRUGGLE

LD061056Y Moscow TASS in English 1029 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 6, TASS--(TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov):

Secretary-General of the African National Congress of South Africa Alfred Nzo pointed out the necessity of stepping up the struggle for full eradication of the racialist regime of the South African Republic constituting a grave threat not only to the independent countries of Africa, but also to the whole world.

Trying to preserve their positions, Alfred Nzo told a TASS correspondent, the racialist authorities are stepping up repressions in that country striving to find reliable allies beyond its borders. A source of special concern is growing cooperation of the racialists with Israel and the FRG. The fascist Pretoria regime must not be allowed to get the atomic weapon, Alfred Nzo stressed. Imperialism, Alfred Nzo noted, strives to strengthen in every way possible the racialist regimes in the south of Africa, in the first place in the South African Republic. With this aim in view the West is increasing Pretoria's military and economic potential, is building a missile testing range in Zaire, and is trying to plant puppet regimes in Zimbabwe and Namibia. Therefore, the secretary-general of the African National Congress stressed, the struggle against apartheid is inseparable from the anti-imperialist struggle.

The imperialists strive to isolate the oppressed peoples and liberation movements from their natural allies--the world socialist system--and to sow among them distrust in the world's socialist system and to sow among them distrust in the world's first state of the workers and peasants, Alfred Nzo noted. But the fighting peoples of South Africa know well from their own experience who their real friend is. This is also seen from the events in Rhodesia. It was clear from the very outset, he said, that all the efforts of the West in Zimbabwe are directed at preserving the old colonialist system there. The secretary-general of the African National Congress has urged all progressive forces of the world to strengthen solidarity with the struggle of the patriots of South Africa, to step up aid to them in the struggle against the racialist regimes of the South African Republic and Rhodesia.

SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION URGED TO DISCUSS RHODESIA

LD031604Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] A group of African countries at the United Nations has urged the convocation of the Security Council to discuss the situation in Rhodesia. Meanwhile in Salisbury, according to Western news agencies, a final agreement was signed between the head of the racist regime, Ian Smith, and African puppet leaders in the framework of the so-called internal settlement.

What was agreed upon in Salisbury? General elections will be held while the Rhodesian state machinery, policy, army and prisons will practically remain unchanged and considered unpolitical. Parliament is supposed to have 100 members, 28 of which will be white: 20 elected by white voters and eight by all. Thus general elections are turned into a laughing stock, and the white minority gets the control or blocking number of deputies. Parliament won't be able to pass any important issues without their approval. Besides, agreement was reached that such a position would remain unchanged for at least 10 years. A bill of rights and a law prohibiting nationalization and confiscation of any property, including land, is to be passed. That means the whites will retain all their political, economic and material privileges.

But the most important thing is that the Salisbury document provides for setting up a government executive council consisting of Ian Smith and the three traitors that negotiated with him. In the Council of Ministers the portfolios will be equally divided between the Africans and the whites. In a word, not a transfer of power to the majority is meant but minor changes in the racist regime of Ian Smith and covering it with a thin layer of Africanization.

On February 16th David Owen expressed full support for the internal settlement reached in Salisbury. The United States has also approved it. The leaders of the Patriotic Front, supported by the Zimbabwean people, saw through these imperialist plans from the very start. The people of Zimbabwe continue the armed struggle and consider it the only way to do away with racism and build a truly independent African Zimbabwe.

Owen's 'Shameful Venture'

LD051629Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0917 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

["Zimbabwe Patriots Will Not Yield"--TASS headline]

[Text] Lusaka--The British Government, having approved the shameful deal between Smith, the leader of the Rhodesian racists, and a group of tribal leaders, is now trying to win recognition for it from the United Nations. It is precisely for this reason that D. Owen, the British foreign secretary, has invited the puppets Muzorewa and Sithole to take part in a meeting of the Security Council which is due to examine the situation in Rhodesia. This was stated by J. Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, speaking here at a press conference on his return from Maputo. Through the so-called "moderate" African leaders Britain is trying to make the United Nations change its attitude toward the racist Salisbury regime, stated J. Nkomo. This shameful venture, however, is doomed to failure. The patriots of Zimbabwe will continue the liberation struggle on all fronts, including the diplomatic one.

AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONDEMN SALISBURY SETTLEMENT

LD052129Y Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 5, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports: African countries in the U.N. firmly condemn the criminal collusion between the chief racist, Smith, and a bunch of African puppets over the so-called internal settlement in Rhodesia. The circles of African delegations at the U.N. note that this illegal deal, made behind the back of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which heads the armed struggle to eliminate the racist regime, is a conspiracy against the Zimbabwe people.

Nigeria has submitted a draft resolution in the U.N. Security Council strongly condemning the illegal deal of Salisbury with the puppets. The document describes the so-called "internal settlement" as a serious threat to peace and security. The permanent delegate of Mauritius at the U.N., Radha Krishna Ramful, stated on behalf of the OAU that the demand for the prompt convocation of the Security Council reflects the will of the Organisation of African Unity, which supports the national liberation movement of the Zimbabwe people. He pointed out that African countries will demand that the Security Council block the so-called internal settlement of the Rhodesian problem which ignores the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and its great sacrifices in the name of national liberation. Representatives of the U.N. Committee for Decolonisation, the U.N. Council of Namibia, the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), and many independent African countries also condemned the imperialist collusion against the Zimbabwe people. They assessed Smith's deal with the puppets as an attempt to perpetuate the racist-colonial order in Rhodesia and demanded the immediate transfer of full powers to the Zimbabwe people.

SOVIET-BURMESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION REVIEWED

LD031209Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Article by A. Artamonov: "On a Sound Basis"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and Burma are separated by many thousands of kilometers. When the British colonialists controlled Burma they tried to make this distance insuperable. But the light of Great October and the word of truth about Soviet Russia reached the most remote districts of this country.

In January 1947, a Burmese delegation arrived in London headed by the ardent patriot Aung San. It held talks on granting Burma independence. Aung San also regarded his meeting with the Soviet ambassador to Britain, in order to discuss the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR, as a very important part of his mission. In February 1948 the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries was recorded in appropriate notes.

Soviet-Burmese relations began to develop even more successfully when the revolutionary patriotic forces of the national liberation arm headed by General Ne Win came to power in 1962. Now the seeds of multifaceted cooperation are sending forth fine shoots. A technical institute, created with Soviet assistance, has sprung up in Rangoon. Graduates from the institute are working successfully at the country's industrial projects.

National technical cadres have been replenished by young Burmese who have obtained higher education in the Soviet Union. Graduates of Soviet VUZes are also working in the Burmese petroleum industry--one of the national economy's most promising sectors.

There are Soviet-Burmese cooperation projects in various parts of the country. They include a big modern hospital in Taunggyi, capital of Shan state, and an irrigation system in Kyetmauk. It has breathed new life into the barren soil of the desert, which is now covered with verdant rice plantations and a white carpet of cotton fields. With assistance from the USSR, comprehensive work has been done to modernize and expand the tin mine near Mawchi, and preparatory work is nearing completion on the utilization of the water resources of the Sittang River.

Burma is well aware that the Soviet Union is sticking firmly and consistently to its principled political support for the peoples' national liberation struggle. Therefore, the two countries positions on many topical problems of the international situation coincide or are close. The Burmese are convinced that Soviet-Burmese cooperation has a sound basis and will continue to develop successfully.

AUSTRALIA'S SECURITY THREATENED BY ALLIANCE WITH U.S.

OW041321Y Moscow in English to Australia and New Zealand 0800 GMT 2 Mar 78 OW

[Text] In this commentary Igor Bestuzhev takes a look at a report by the Defense Studies Center of the Australian National University. He writes:

The report says Australia must continue to depend on the United States and Britain. Australia, it says, must join the commitments of America and Britain in Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia and elsewhere. Has the defense studies center suggested anything new? It certrinly has not. This concept is what drew Australia into the United States' aggression in Indochina. What did the Australian news media say just before the country sent troops to South Vietnam? Australia must support America. The media insisted that would be the only way to stop communist expansion in Southeast Asia. Canberra officials claimed that a communist victory in South Vietnam would threaten Australia and all the countries in South and Southeast Asia. They said Australia must consider America's commitments as its own, and some said the national defense line crossed Vietnam. That defense line cost many Australians their lives, and huge sums were spent on troops to help South Vietnam's corrupt regime. A regime unable to stand without the United States. All these sacrifices could have been justified, however, if Australia's security had been in danger. But Vietnam did not pose a threat to Australia and the United States. What the Australian news media called communist expansion in South Vietnam was a national liberation revolution, a revolution against land proprietors, corrupt officials and foreign companies that controlled South Vietnam's economy.

In the 18th century, North America had its national liberation war. Since the Second World War African and Asian countries have seen national liberation, but these victories have not threatened the security of other countries. The national liberation revolution in Vietnam has not threatened the security of Australia, New Zealand or any other Asian country. The defense studies center admits this in its report. None of the countries close to Australia, the center notes, are planning aggression against the country. Since Vietnam won peace it has been repairing the ravages of war. It is obvious that Vietnam does not want to invade any other country.

The Hong Kong FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW said early this year the domino theory of Southeast Asian states toppling under a communist tide never looked weaker. Indeed, ASEAN-Indochina relations, the magazine added, were beginning to look healthy. The magazine noted that Vietnam and Laos have taken steps to improve relations with their neighbors. So the political situation in Asia is favorable for Australia and New Zealand. It will further their security, but the situation was different when the United States, Australia and New Zealand waged war in Indochina, a war that involved increasingly more countries. That war could at any time grow into a broader military conflict and spread to Australia and New Zealand. [Sentence as heard] During that war the security of both Australia and New Zealand was threatened. Why then did Australia and New Zealand join in United States aggression even though this certainly undermined national security. Were the people at the helm unable to understand the political situation? Far from it. Corporations in Australia and New Zealand with holdings in Southeast Asia dictated policy to both Canberra and Wellington, and they were joined by Australian and New Zealand subsidiaries of United States corporations. When they pressed Canberra and Wellington to support the aggression to save their profits in Southeast Asia, did they care that Australian and New Zealand soldiers would be killed in Vietnam? They certainly did not. Did they care that soaring military spending in Australia and New Zealand added to economic problems? Positively not. Since then neither country has solved these problems.

So the appeal for Australia to share America's commitments in Asia cannot but evoke concern. There are groups in Australia that are ready to join the United States in any military action to suppress national liberation movements. This is what threatens Australia's security.

AUSTRALIA VICTIMIZED BY COMMON MARKET MEMBERS

OW282345Y Moscow in English to Australia and New Zealand 0800 GMT 27 Feb 78 OW

[Vladimir Ivanov commentary]

[Text] Just a short while ago the community [European Economic Community] was regarded a reliable trade partner for Australia. But in 1977 a special ministry had to be set up in Canberra to regulate trade relations with Western Europe. That was because Australia, in the trade dialog with the EEC, suddenly found herself in the position of a weak, dependent partner.

Now, if we take Australia's exports to the community countries, with the exception of Britain, her share in the general amount of exports went down from 20 percent in 1950 to 11 percent in 1970. Over the same period the share of EEC countries, excluding Britain, in Australia's imports rose from 6 ro 13 percent. In other words the change was in the opposite direction. It is these trends in relations with the EEC that have led up not only to an unbalanced trade exchange but also undermined Australia's trust in the European market. A short while ago it was hard to even imagine that Australia's discrimination on the European market would reach such a scope that her trade relations with the United States and Japan would seem, against the background, models of justice. One can, of course, find ways to explain the situation that has emerged. Say, Western Europe is still unable to overcome the consequences of the economic crisis and is therefore forced to protect its market from products made in the United States of America, Japan or Australia. However, the crisis has not created but only sharpened and intensified what lies at the roots of international capitalist trade. From the very outset that trade was based on the total absence of long-term guarantees. It is therefore hardly by chance that many capitalist firms and even states have in the search for a reliable, stable market turned to the socialist countries.

The socialist states apply the principles of mutual advantage and equal, stable cooperation not only in economic relations with each other but in economic ties with the rest of the world, and this has become particularly attractive for capitalist countries in view of the economic difficulties of the latter. Major Western firms who have secured orders from the Soviet Union and other countries on the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have found themselves in a much better situation. Now, as to Australia's relations with the EEC countries, the latter refused to show even a minimum of understanding. The trip that Australia's Prime Minister Fraser made last summer to West European countries yielded no results. The leaders of the Common Market countries have in effect made no promises regarding the access of Australian farm produce to the West European food market. In the general struggle to straighten out the balance of payments, a struggle involving absolutely all the capitalist countries, Australia has found herself in the position of the weakest. Australian exporters are, in Western Europe, confronted not only by the powerful monopolies but also by the pooled forces of the Common Market states who are using economic sanctions against the Australian farmers. Thus international trade specialization is, in the conditions of a capitalist market, directed first and foremost against relatively small countries such as Australia. The reason for this lies in the anarchy and competition that continues to dominate on the world capitalist market. This not only leads to ruin for the producers within each capitalist country but also impairs the national interests of individual states. In this connection one cannot but agree with the Western economists who contend that the very principles of economic relations, shaped under capitalism, need a reconstructuring. It is necessary, those economists say, to free these relations from the dictates of international monopolies and closed economic groups set up in the interests of those monopolies.

EXPANSION IN USSR-INDONESIA ECONOMIC TIES SEEN

BK0116202Y Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1500 GMT 28 Feb 78 BK

[Aleksey Nikolayev commentary: "For the Promotion of Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] A delegation from Teknopromeksport, a Soviet foreign trade organization, and the hydroproject institute is now visiting Jakarta to conclude a technical contract on the construction of (Mrica) hydroelectric powerproject in central Java. In this connection commentator Aleksey Nikolayev writes: The Soviet Union and Indonesia in December 1976 signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement under which the Soviet Union would assist Indonesia in the development of electric power projects. In concluding the agreement, Indonesia was taking into account the vast Soviet experiences in developing hydroelectric power stations both in the Soviet Union and abroad, such as the Sayano Shushenskaya and the Krasnoyarskaya giant hydroelectric power stations and electric power stations built with Soviet assistance in the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic, India and other countries.

The plan for Soviet assistance in the development of a hydroelectric power station in central Java was agreed upon during the visit of Soviet hydropower experts to Indonesia in 1975. The current visit is to finalize concrete technical preparations for the development of the hydroelectric power station, which will play an important role in supplying electricity to Java. In this connection, the mass media has welcomed Indonesia's experienced partner--the Soviet Union. The daily MERDEKA for example wrote that it was confident that if a contract is concluded, the Soviet Union would employ superior technology to develop the project on time. The (Mrica) hydroelectric power station is one of the projects which will be built with Soviet participation. In the near future, talks will be held on the development of an aluminum plant on Bintan Island and another electric power station in Java. As pointed out by Indonesian observers, 1978 will mark the further promotion of Soviet-Indonesian economic relations.

BRITISH NAVAL EXERCISES INDICATE MILITARISTIC TREND

LD0321502Y Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Singapore, March 3, TASS--A British Royal Navy task force has called at the port of Singapore today. It consists of ten warships, including the helicopter carrier flagship Tiger, five frigates, and support ships. According to an official announcement the British squadron is to hold joint exercises with the Singapore Navy. Western powers have been demonstrating their military might in the waters off the coasts of the Southeast Asian countries much more often in recent times. An exercise involving warships from the United States, Britain and Thailand ended in the Gulf of Siam a short while ago. Australia, Singapore and Malaysia held joint naval exercises in the waters of that region late last year. The area also saw another joint exercise by Australia and Indonesia. The American aircraft carrier Midway has stayed at the ports of Singapore and Malaysia for ten days.

The imperialist circles and those who do their bidding have not given up their designs to push the Southeast Asian countries into the path of militarization. They want to knock together a new alliance in the area to replace the collapsed SEATO bloc. Western propaganda is trying to cover up those dangerous schemes by holding forth about the "need to maintain the balance of forces and stability". The worn-out tale of the "communist threat" has again been extracted from the archives of the "cold war." The Western militaristic fuss is causing concern to the Southeast Asian nations. The peaceloving public does not want a return to the times of the "cold war" and demands establishing the relations of peace and friendship among all countries in that region.

NEGATIVE JAPANESE REACTION TO DRAFT TREATY SCORED

LD061011Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Own correspondent I. Latyshev article: "Attacks by the Opponents of the Treaty"]

[Text] Tokyo--The draft treaty on neighborliness and cooperation between the USSR and Japan, published recently by the Soviet press, has attracted universal interest among the Japanese public. The central Tokyo newspapers published its text in full, thus giving local readers the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the content of this important document, which is a testimony to the Soviet Union's sincere desire for peace in the Far East and friendship with its neighbor--Japan. Accompanying the text of the draft treaty with its own comments, the newspaper ASAHI assessed this document as "an embodiment of the course toward the relaxation of tension."

Official circles in Japan have occupied a different position. High-ranking representatives of the Japanese Government have attempted to impose on the public their negative attitude to the Soviet peace initiative and their preconceived assessments of the draft treaty. Rejecting the draft and releasing a barrage of anti-Soviet attacks on it, these people have begun to assure the local public that the aim of the proposed treaty is to "isolate" Japan from countries such as the United States and China, to "undermine the independence of its foreign policy" and to "turn it into a satellite of the Soviet Union." (!) The Japanese foreign minister and the minister without portfolio on questions of foreign economic policy have publicly expressed themselves in this manner on the draft treaty.

The biggest attacks from the treaty's opponents were evoked by article three of the draft, which speaks of commitments by both countries "not to allow the use of their territory for any actions which might be detrimental to the security of the other side." This purely peaceful proposal by the Soviet Union was evaluated by militarist circles as a direct "threat" to the existence of the Japanese-American military "security treaty" in accordance with which U.S. military bases are located on Japanese territory. Thus, in the heat of the attacks against the draft treaty, what was formerly kept quiet is admitted--namely, the anti-Soviet orientation of Japan's military cooperation with the United States.

The draft treaty was also given a hostile reception by advocates of the speedy signing of a Japanese-Chinese "peace and friendship treaty," including an anti-Soviet item on "joint opposition by both countries to the hegemony of the third country," by which Peking unambiguously means the Soviet Union. They have launched an attack on the article concerning the commitment of the sides to refrain from any actions encouraging any third party to undertake aggressive acts against either of them.

The main objection of the opponents of the Japanese-Soviet treaty on neighborliness and cooperation has nothing to do with the cause of peace in the Far East. This is its essence: The draft treaty is unacceptable to Japan because the Soviet side makes no move to meet the Japanese Government's well-known claims on the so-called "northern territories."

Trying to persuade the Japanese public that there are certain "unresolved territorial questions" in Soviet-Japanese relations, the Government of Japan is deliberately closing its eyes to reality and trying to arouse nationalist sentiments and revanchist illusions among the Japanese population.

It is hard to reconcile this attitude on the part of Japanese Government circles to the treaty on neighborliness and cooperation with the Soviet Union with their declarations of readiness to seek ways of further improving relations with our country. One gets the impression that at present the Japanese Government's policy is under the influence of forces hostile to peace, dragging Japan onto the path of confrontation with the Soviet Union. There is no other way to explain the recent activity of those who advocate further extending Japanese-American military cooperation on the one hand and supporters of Japan's entry into an anti-Soviet alliance with Peking on the other. This is also attested by the persistent attempts of the Japanese Government to activate in the country a so-called "movement for the return of the northern territories."

Meanwhile the Japanese people's vital interests demand not confrontation but a close, neighborly community and friendship with the Soviet Union. The neighborliness, cooperation and friendship of both countries' peoples is an important condition of lasting peace and the relaxation of tension in the Far East. The Soviet draft treaty on neighborliness and cooperation opens a path in this direction.

JAPAN'S GENEVA DELEGATE ASKS END TO UNDERGROUND TESTS

OW060811Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 3 Mar 78 OW

[Anatolyev: "Danger of Nuclear Weapons Should Be Eliminated"]

[Text] According to a KYODO news report from Geneva, Japan's delegate to the Disarmament Committee, Motoo Ogiso, called on the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain to arrive at an early agreement on a total ban of all nuclear testing. Ogiso also called on the three major nuclear powers to declare a moratorium on underground nuclear testing at the forthcoming UN Special Assembly on Disarmament in the event they fail to conclude a treaty banning undergroung nuclear testing before the assembly meets.

The concern reflected in Ogiso's remarks is understandable. Japan is the only victim of atomic attacks in the world. Only recently, events were held in Japan marking the 24th anniversary of the 1 March Bikini Day. However, the Japanese are not the only people who want to eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons to mankind. The Soviet people aspire for the same goal and the peace-loving forces of the world are struggling for that goal.

Ever since nuclear arms made their appearance, the Soviet Union has been calling for their complete ban and abolition. The Soviet Union has repeatedly issued proposals aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race. It is a signatory to such significant international treaties as the 1963 Moscow Treaty banning nuclear arms testing in the atmosphere, space and underwater, the 1968 nuclear nonproliferation treaty and the 1971 treaty prohibiting the deployment of mass-destructive weapons on the ocean floor. It also concluded a set of bilateral agreements with the United States on limiting strategic arms and underground nuclear arms testing. On 2 November last year, Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, put forward a new proposal on behalf of the Soviet Union. Referring to negotiations between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain on banning underground nuclear testing, Brezhnev said: We want to advance the negotiations on this question and bring them to a successful settlement. For this reason, we declare that we are ready to conclude agreements on banning all nuclear arms testing for a certain period and, at the same time, proclaim a moratorium on nuclear detonations for peaceful purposes.

Ogiso made his remarks in Geneva in the same spirit as the Soviet proposal. But, Ogiso only takes issue with underground testing. As everyone knows, Japan's neighbor, China, still conducts nuclear arms tests in the atmosphere. Japan, we believe, is equally interested in banning such tests. A ban on nuclear testing is no more than a step toward the abolition of nuclear weapons. If one maintains a consistent attitude in dealing with this issue, he cannot be silent about the question of abolishing nuclear arms while calling for a ban on nuclear testing. This notwithstanding, the Japanese Government has recently adopted a decision that Japan's possession of tactical nuclear weapons would not violate its constitution. What should we make of this? Obviously, this decision is not compatible with the abolition of mass-destruction weapons, a policy which we believe Japan should naturally pursue.

JAPANESE-SOVIET SOCIETY HOLDS CONVENTION IN TOKYO

OW041005Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 2 Mar 78 OW

[Text] Yesterday, the Japan-Soviet Friendship Society held its 14th convention in Tokyo. Moscow Radio correspondent in Tokyo Vladimir Tsvetov reports the following on the convention:

First, Kiyoji Wakasa, chairman of the Japan-Soviet Friendship Society, reported on events sponsored by the society last year to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. These events included lectures, meetings, exhibitions and films on the achievements made by the Soviet people since the birth of the Soviet Government. The Japan-Soviet Friendship Society also carried on exchanges with Soviet public organizations, scholars, specialists and students. The society made particular efforts to propagate the Russian language in Japan. Speaking next, Society President Tsunesaburo Tokuyama reviewed the group's activities in 1977. He said that last year the society devoted its activities to further deepening mutual understanding between the Japanese and Soviet peoples by disseminating accurate information on the Soviet Union and informing the Japanese people of the Soviet people's culture, science and life.

The convention adopted a resolution to observe a Japan-Soviet friendship month to mark the 61st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the 22nd anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between the two countries as part of the association's action program for 1978. The society also plans to sponsor symposiums on the influence of the Great October Socialist Revolution on Japan, on the Soviet economy and on Soviet technologies. It also plans to hold a photo exhibition this year to introduce Lenin's life and activities, the Soviet Constitution, and the Soviet people's struggle for total and complete disarmament.

The convention was also addressed by Soviet Ambassador to Japan Polyanskiy and Krivtsov, deputy director of the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and a board director of the Soviet-Japan Friendship Society, who is visiting Japan to attend the convention.

DPRK FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT CONDEMNS U.S.-ROK TIES

LD0521111Y Moscow TASS in English 1847 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Pyongyang, March 5, TASS--The Foreign Ministry of the DPRK strongly condemns the joint American-South Korean military exercises to be held in South Korea, which are directed at increasing tension on the Korean Peninsula, and constitute a threat to peace in Asia and throughout the world, says a statement by a Foreign Ministry spokesman of the DPRK.

The exercises, in which more than 100,000 troops will take part, are the biggest since the 1950-1953 Korean War. The U.S. is sending troops from its own territory and from Japan for taking part in them. The DPRK Government and the Korean people, says the statement, believe that the military hullabaloo raised in the U.S. and by the South Korean puppet clique, is a serious encroachment on peace and security in Korea and Asia, a challenge to the peace-loving peoples of the globe. The United States, the statement points out, is violating its promise to withdraw American troops from South Korea, it comes out against peace and a peaceful unification of Korea.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman also said that Japanese ruling circles, which put their territory at the disposal of the American military, must put an end to all actions which run counter to the interests of Korea and Japan, the interests of world peace.

ROK ALLIANCE WITH U.S., JAPAN REVIEWED

SK060855Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 2 March 78 SK

[Bobrov commentary]

[Text] Military demonstrations such as the most recent joint military exercise by the United States and South Korea and provocative actions by Seoul and the U.S. military authorities against the DPRK draw our attention, and remind that South Korea is a dangerous hotbed of heightening tension in the Far East. The expansion of the militarism in South Korea certainly evokes our concern. Speaking about a threat from the north, the Seoul administration is requesting that more weapons be supplied by its supporters abroad and that funds for maintaining the 700,000 South Korean troops be increased. The United States has already spent a total of $5.6 billion to establish enormous forces in South Korea. Washington has further made a commitment to grant some $2 billion to the Seoul regime for reinforcement of the South Korean Army.

In addition, the United States is trying to convince Japan to militarily reinforce the Seoul regime. The U.S. leaders hope that Tokyo makes a great contribution to militarizing South Korea. As expected, their efforts have not been in vain. According to publications in Japan, the South Korean administration is expected to receive $3 billion worth of financial aid from Japan by 1982, and a considerable portion of this sum will be used for military objectives. The U.S. troops stationed in South Korea to militarize the ROK, according to the will of the reactionary Seoul regime, are obstacles to the reunification of Korea as a democratic nation. Washington's plan to withdraw troops from South Korea is a long-standing issue. The DPRK is taking constructive actions in responding to the will of the entire Korean people. The DPRK Government has recently issued a memorandum which attracted great attention from the world people. The memorandum sternly denounced the United States, Japan and South Korea for their maneuvers to perpetuate Korea's division.

The DPRK Government pointed out that the stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea and its militarization are bringing about the danger of new military collision. The Soviet Union and other socialist nations are actively supporting the DPRK policy demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the pursuit of the nation's peaceful and democratic reunification without outside interference.

TASS DIRECTOR GENERAL RELIEVED OF DUTIES, TRANSFERRED

LD031444Y Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

["News"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 3, TASS--The USSR Council of Ministers relieved Leonid Zamyatin of his duties of director general of TASS, the news agency of the Soviet Union, in connection with his transfer to another post.

SHARAF RASHIDOV SPEAKS AT UZBEK KOMSOMOL CONGRESS

LD041738Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] Sharaf Rashidovovich Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, was warmly welcomed by the delegates of 21st congress of the Uzbek Komsomol, which has just been held. He spoke about the new tasks the young people of the republic have to fulfill.

[Rashidov--recorded] This year's work must equal the good results of last year. For this reason, we must move forward confidently, without a backward step, rising from summit to summit, and conquer increasingly new and higher targets; put all reserves at the service of production; and work in even greater unison and even more persistently to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

High socialist pledges for the third year of the 5-year plan have been adopted by the workers of industry, transportation and communications; builders; cotton cultivators; corn growers; rice cultivators; stockbreeders; vegetable growers; horticulturists. All our pledges have been published in the press; you are well aware of them. We have a great deal to do. The Central Committee not only does not doubt that the Komsomol members, and all young men and women, will fulfill these difficult but noble tasks with enthusiasm and with all the ardor of their young and fervent hearts, but we are sure that you--the delegates of the congress--will be at the forefront of this young people's labor impulse by setting a personal example. [applause]

In order to more quickly fulfill the tasks of the 5-year plan, the people have put forward the slogan "Not a Laggard Alongside", which has been reaffirmed by the party. Let us ponder over the meaning of this patriotic call, which holds inexhaustible reserves. Judge for yourselves: Our front-rankers and innovators are in the public eye. They are surrounded by attention and respect, and it is right that this should be so. But look how many mediocre workers and even laggards there are alongside them. They often fall out of our field of vision, stand in the shadows. If every person worked conscientiously and enthusiastically like our innovators, how much more metal, coal, machines, grain, cotton, stockbreeding products and good quality goods for the population would the country and our people receive.

Esteemed comrades delegates: It would surely be right--it would be excellent--if alongside you, alongside each Komsomol aktivist, there were no mediocre workers or laggards. [applause]

GEORGIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM OPENS IN TBILISI

LD021707Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 25 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] GRUZINFORM--The Ninth Georgian CP Central Committee plenum began its work 24 February. Obkom, gorkom and raykom secretaries; chairmen of city and rayon soviets of people's deputies; chiefs of rayon agricultural administrations; sovkhoz directors; kolkhoz chairmen; foremost workers in agricultural production; leaders of ministries and departments; executives of trade union and Komsomol organs, and figures of science and culture were invited to the plenum.

Participating in the work of the plenum are N.P. Rudenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Section; N.I. Grishakov, executive of the CPSU Central Committee; and O.F. Kulishev, commander of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District.

E. A. Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, delivered a report "On Measures To Fulfill the 25th CPSU Congress Decisions and the CPSU Central Committee Resolution 'On the Further Development of the Specialization and Concentration of Agricultural Production on the Basis of Interfarm Cooperation and Agroindustrial Integration.'"

The plenum was addressed by V.M. Khintba, first secretary of Abkhazskiy Obkom; N.A. Petriashvili, pig-raising team leader on the Zemo-Alvani Sheep-Raising Sovkhoz in Akhmetskiy Rayon and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet; V.R. Papunidze, first secretary of Adzharskiy Obkom; N.A. Chitanava, Georgian minister of agriculture; F.S. Sanakoyev, first secretary of Yugo-Osetinskiy Obkom; Sh. M. Etsadashvili, first secretary of Gurdzhaanskiy Raykom; R.Kh. Kontselidze, Georgian minister of food industry; G.D. Mgeladze, first secretary of Abashskiy Raykom; T.K. Sturua, director of the Tbilisi Gruzselmash Plant; A.V. Burdzhanadze, first secretary of Terzholskiy Raykom; G.B. Gadeliya, Georgian minister of reclamation and water resources; R.V. Memarnishvili, first secretary of Marneulskiy Raykom; I.A. Kharatishvili, Georgian minister of rural construction; N.N. Nefedov, first secretary of Kirovskiy Raykom in Tbilisi; K.D. Kikalishvili, chairman of the Akhalsopeli Village Kolkhoz in Zugdidskiy Rayon; O.I. Menabde, first secretary of Lanchkhutskiy Raykom; and writer N.V. Dumbadze.

The plenum is continuing its work.

Plenum Winds Up Debate

LD021709Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] GRUZINFORM--On 25 February, the ninth plenum continued discussing the report of Shevardnadze, first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, "On Measures To Fulfill the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee Resolution 'On the Further Development of the Specialization and Concentration of Agricultural Production on the Basis of Interfarm Cooperation and Agroindustrial Integration.'" Taking part in the discussion were Ye.K. Kharadze, president of the Georgian Academy of Sciences; G.S. Shugarov, first secretary of the Akhalkalakskiy Party Raykom; K.K. Ozgan, chief of the Gudautskiy Rayon Agriculture Administration; D.D. Bedukadze, first secretary of the Khashurskiy Party Raykom; V.I. Metreveli, rector of the Georgian Agriculture Institute; G.I. Gunava, first secretary of the Lentekhskiy Party Raykom; G.V. Giviashvili, secretary of the Party Committee of the Karaletskiy Sovkhoz, Goriyskiy Rayon; and D.Ye. Sarishvili, chairman of the Georgian Selkhoztekhnika Association.

A speech was delivered at the plenum by N. P. Rudenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Section.

A concluding speech was delivered by E. A. Shevardnadze.

The plenum adopted a resolution on the question discussed.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

In connection with his transfer to other work outside the republic the plenum released P. V. Melnikov from duties as a member of the Georgian CP Central Committee Bureau.

The plenum elected O. F. Kulishev, commander of the troops of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District, to the post of member of the Georgian CP Central Committee Bureau.

YEREVAN PAPER HITS EXAGGERATION OF THE NATIONAL TASKS

LD031605 [Editorial Report LD] Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian on 25 February 1978 publishes on page 2 a 2,000-word article by Doctor of Historical Sciences A. Krasnov under the headline "The Triumph of the Ideas of Scientific Communism," devoted to the 130th anniversary of Marx's original Communist Party Manifesto. The article explores the origins of scientific communism and the ideas expounded in the Communist Manifesto and states:

"Historical experience teaches us that the working class invariably scored successes in its struggle only when it adhered strictly to the principles of international class solidarity and mutual support on behalf of the movement's internationalist interests as a whole. Disregard for the principles of proletarian internationalism and an exaggeration of the national tasks and interests of individual detachments of the working class to the detriment of the common interests of the international workers movement plays into the hands of the class enemy and can only delay the cause of total victory over the bourgeoisie."

The article describes the profound revolutionary changes which have occurred under the leadership of the working class and the effects of building developed socialist society in the USSR and concludes: "Modern times convincingly confirm the immortality of the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism and the inevitability of the approaching victory of communism on earth."

KAZAKH GEOLOGY MINISTER RELEASED, NO REASON GIVEN

LD031001Y Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] KAZTAG--the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Shakhmardan Yesenov from the duties of Kazakh minister of geology.

UZBEK CONSTRUCTION AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEAD REPLACED

LD031003 [Editorial Report LD] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 23 February 1978 carries on page 4 the text of a Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium decree appointing Vasiliy Stepanovich Skrebnev chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers State Committee for Construction Affairs.

An announcement on the same page states that "the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Petr Ilich Kavtarov from the duties of chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers State Committee for Construction Affairs at his own request for reasons of worsening health."

RSFSR AGRICULTURE MINISTER SPEAKS ON SPRING FIELDWORK

LD031526Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Spring fieldwork has begun in the republics of central Asia and Transcaucasia. The first sowing machines have gone out into the fields of southern regions of the autonomous republics of the north Caucasus.

The RSFSR minister of agriculture, Leonid Yakovlevich Florentyev, talks about preparation for mass spring fieldwork and the wintering of stock in the Russian Federation:

[Florentyev--begin recording] In kolkhozes and sovkhozes extensive socialist competition is going on to make the current agricultural year a year of further upsurge in all branches of agriculture. In the enhanced socialist obligations which have been undertaken, the republic's agricultural workers have taken upon themselves to achieve in the current year a gross harvest of not less than 130 million tons; to fill up the grain elevators of the country with a total of 53 million tons of grain; to obtain per single hectare of sugar beets not less than 200 quintals of roots; sunflower seed, 15 quintals; potatoes, 120 quintals; vegetables, 175 quintals. Measures have been planned and are being implemented for increasing the production and sale to the state of meat, milk and other products of stockbreeding.

Particular measures are being implemented--and this is at the center of attention of kolkhozes and sovkhozes--in increasing production of grain crops and fodder and improvement in the quality of agricultural products, as well as in the improvement in effectiveness of all agricultural branches.

The resolutions adopted by the Central Committee of the party and the USSR Council of Ministers regarding additional measures for completing preparations for spring fieldwork and carrying out the work itself, are of service in successfully solving this task. Many oblasts, krays and autonomous republics, and many farms have fully prepared seeds for spring fieldwork. In Belgorodskaya, Voronezhskaya, Kurskaya, Lipetskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Penzaskaya, Saratovskaya oblasts, Stavropol Kray and many other regions of our republic, all seeds correspond to the highest required sowing standards. However this work has not yet been completed.

Preparations in the machine and tractor park are being carried out better than last year. The initiators of socialist competition, machine operators of farms in Stavropol Kray, Ivanovskaya, Belgorodskaya and a number of other oblasts, krays and republics have completed preparations in the machine and tractor park, as well as a considerable amount of preparations in the combine harvester park and the fodder-harvesting machine park, for field and harvesting work. However, there is still a fair amount of work to be done and measures to be carried out here, and the measures outlined in the resolution of the Central Committee of the party and the government of the union in according additional aid through spare parts, maintenance and other materials, will help farms, machine operators, and agricultural organs to more speedily complete these tasks. We are paying serious attention to overhauls in the machine and tractor park, in order that every tractor and every machine prepared for fieldwork is in top condition.

We will implement the Ipatovo method very extensively this year. It was tested last year in harvesting work and now this method is to be implemented starting with spring fieldwork in spring sowing, in fodder-processing, in other agricultural work.

In spring sowing, for example, in the drier warmer regions, we will use flowline sowing methods, the essence of which is that all the work is organized in a synchronized manner, without any interval in between, which enables moisture to be saved and insures level growth of crops.

In accordance with the resolution of the Central Committee of the party and the USSR Council of Ministers, this year and we are already thinking about how it can be done. We intend to organize services for machine operators. A total of 16,000 permanently operating canteens in kolkhozes and sovkhozes have been set up and are functioning. For the period of spring sowing mobile points for catering the fields are being organized and large-scale measures are being implemented to fulfill intensive agrotechnical measures in carrying out snow retention, the feeding up of winter crops, the supply of organic fertilizers, liming of acid soil, and other work.

One must note with satisfaction that in the majority of farms and regions these operations are being carried out this year more extensively and in an organized manner. You know what a test it is for farmers to prepare for spring sowing. In January and February we carried out, in all the main zones of the republic, zonal conferences of workers in agriculture, technologists in production, agronomists, specialists and scientists. We examined improvements in soil fertility, the culture of farming, insuring growth in gross harvests of grain and fodder for the developing stockbreeding industry--in other words, strategy and tactics for carrying out operations in farming, spring fieldwork and other agricultural work, were examined from all sides. We took into account the peculiarities of various zones of our large republic, so that the fruitful capacity of every hectare is better utilized, and fuller use is made of the capacities of agriculture in our republic in the current year.

In preparing for spring fieldwork we naturally fully understand that at the moment in the other branch of agriculture, a very important branch also, stockbreeding, is in one of its seasonal periods. The final wintering period is in progress and farms are doing everything possible--or more precisely the majority of farms; possibly not everywhere. Here we probably still have some unsolved problems to which we have to give our undivided attention, but even then we will concentrate this attention on insuring that the winter period is used for increasing production of stockbreeding products, on preparing for an organized transfer of stock, communal, privately owned stock, which is the property of individuals on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and on summering pastures and upkeep. Kolkhozes, sovkhozes and agricultural sectional organs know that one of their most important tasks is the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plans to sell stockbreeding products to the state in order not only to fulfill the tasks of the current year but also to add to the surplus obtained in a number of regions and farms during the past 2 years of the 5-year period, and to successfully fulfill the tasks of the 5-year period as a whole. [end recording]

BRIEFS

AMUR OBLAST TRACTOR REPAIRS--The Amur Oblast agricultural administraion reports that by 2 March farms in the oblast had repaired more than 8,000 tractors, fulfilling the plan by 104 percent. Only Magdagachinskiy, Skovorodinskiy and Arkharinskiy rayons, which still have 35 more tractors to repair, have failed to meet the plan.
[Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 2 Mar 78 OW]

COSMOS-992 LAUNCHED 4 MAR; EQUIPMENT FUNCTIONING NORMALLY

LD041300Y Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--Artificial earth satellite Cosmos-992, next in the series, has been launched in the Soviet Union today.

On board the satellite is installed scientific equipment for continuing outer space exploration.

The satellite was launched into an orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution--89.8 minutes, maximum distance from the earth's surface (in the apogee)--346 kilometers, minimum distance from the earth's surface (in the perigee)--210 kilometers, inclination of the orbit--71.4 degrees.

The onboard equipment of the satellite is functioning normally.

ZHELEZNOV NOTES PLANS FOR INTERNATIONAL SPACE CREWS

LD031314Y Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

["The Road Into Outer Space"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 3,TASS--TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov writes: "Before coming for training to the Stellar Township", journalists were told by the 29-year-old Czechoslovak pilot Vladimir Remek, "I attended a meeting of my former classmates at the school in Ceske-Budejovice. Every third of them became a pilot under the influence of Gagarin's space flight. All of them are modelling their life on the world's first cosmonaut." Vladimir Remek is the researcher-cosmonaut in the first international crew that was launched yesterday on board the Soyuz-28.

"All the difficulties that I encountered on the road to the new profession have been compensated by the huge charges of positive emotions, by realization of the fact that every passing day brings closer the fulfilment of my dream, my participation in an important undertaking", he said on the eve of the launch.

Aleksey Gubarev, commander of Soyuz-28 said: "Vladimir has excellently prepared himself for the flight. He is one of those who can work 24 hours a day".

Journalists met with candidates for this international flight on the eve of the departure of the cosmonauts for Baykonur. The first question addressed to the moderator of the meeting, Air Force Lieutenant-General Vladimir Shatalov, concerned the place of the forthcoming flight in the overall programme of space expeditions in 1977-78. The main volume of experimental work on board the orbital station of a new type--Salyut 6--has already been accomplished, he said. Everybody agrees that the emergence into outer space, the dockings and undockings of space vehicles, the joint work on board the station of four cosmnauts, the first refuelling of a station in orbit and other operations were carried out excellently.

Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko are now fully engaged in scientific work. The programme of this work provides, in particular, for the first manned flight under the Intercosmos programme with crews consisting of representatives of socialist countries. It was decided that in the crews formed for such expeditions a representative of the USSR will be commander of the ship and a representative of a socialist country a researcher-cosmonaut. When the Salyut-6 orbital station was passing its final trials on the ground Doctor of Technical Sciences Konstantin Feoktistov, one of its creators, said: "The first international crew from socialist countries will live and work in this space house". Six candidates for the first flight--pilots from Czechoslovakia, Poland and the GDR are training for space launchings for already about a year. They all are thoroughly studying the design of the station. When only a month remained before the launching of the first international crew and the final exams were being held in the classrooms, mock-ups and medical laboratories of the cosmonaut training centre, the board of examiners, presided by Air Force Lieutenant General Georgiy Beregovoy, checked the state of readiness of the candidates for the space flight and noted its high level.

SOYUZ-28 DOCKS WITH SALYUT-6-SOYUZ-27 COMPLEX 3 MAR

Preparations for Docking

LD031140Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1121 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 3 March--Special TASS correspondent reports from Flight Control Center: By 1400 Moscow time, Soyuz-28 had completed 13 revolutions around the earth. In the first radio session, Cosmonauts Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek reported that they have started a program of preparing the Soyuz-28 craft for approaching the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 orbital complex.

After a correction had been made to the trajectory, the parameters of the orbit of the Soyuz-28 spacecraft were: Maximum distance from the surface of the earth: 309 kilometers; minimum distance from the surfact of the earth: 269 kilometers: period of revolution: 90 minutes; inclination: 51.6 degrees.

For the crew of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 space research complex, the 12th week of orbital flight is nearing conclusion. Today, Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko are preparing the station for docking with the Soyuz-28 spacecraft. The flights of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 orbital complex and the Soyuz-28 spacecraft are in full accordance with the planned program. Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek feel well.

Soyuz-28 Docks With Orbital Complex

LD032050Y Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

["International Crew on Board the Soviet Orbital Complex"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 3, TASS--The Soyuz-28, manned by the international crew consisting of Crew Commander Pilot Cosmonaut of the USSR Aleksey Gubarev and Cosmonaut Researcher Vladimir Remek, citizen of Czechoslovakia, docked with the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 orbital complex today at 20 hours 10 minutes, Moscow time.

The international crew consisting of Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev, and Vladimir Remek is conducting research in the terrestrial orbit on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 research complex.

After the Soyuz-28 spaceship's docking and the checking of the tightness of the docking assembly positioned in the station's plant compartment, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek transferred to the quarters of the Salyut-6 station. Earlier the Soyuz-26 manned spaceship and the unmanned cargo spacecraft had linked up with that assembly.

At all the stages of the rendezvous, docking and transfer, the crews of the spaceship and the orbital station acted efficently, concertedly and with complete mutual understanding.

The program of work by the international crew of cosmonauts envisages the conduct of joint scientific and technical research and experiments on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 research complex for seven days.

Thus, observation and photography of the surface of the earth and the ocean, medico-biological and technological experiments are planned.

All the cosmonauts feel well. All on-board systems of the space complex are functioning normally.

Soviet people are proud of the achievements of Soviet cosmonautic and of the USSR's developing cooperation with the countries of the socialist community in the name of progress, happiness and welfare of all people on earth.

USSR, CSSR Officials Interviewed

LD031856Y Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 3, TASS--"The start of the Soyuz-28 spaceship [as received] with an international crew on board ushers in a qualitatively new stage in the cooperation of socialist states on space orbits," a TASS correspondent was told by Boris Petrov, chairman of the Intercosmos Council of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. He commented on the launching of the spaceship with the Soviet representative Aleksey Gubarev and the Czechoslovak representative Vladimir Remek on board.

The scientific orbital stations, as shown by the expedition on board the Salyut-6, allow the specialist of the socialist countries to scale a higher rung of "space integration". "The participation of the cosmonauts of different countries in such experiments elevate these flights to the level of large-scale international programs, contribute to the strengthening of friendship and multilateral cooperation among the countries of socialism," Academician Petrov said.

Jaroslav Kozesnik, the president of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, told a TASS correspondent that space research in Czechoslovakia started immediately after the launching of the first Soviet sputnik. In close cooperation with the other socialist states optical and photographical tracking of the Soviet sputniks was organized in the country. Beginning with October 14, 1969, that is with the launching of the first Intercosmos sputnik, scientific instruments and appliances of Czechoslovak make were installed on board of practically all the sputniks of this series.

"The space flight, started in the spring of 1978, shows that the Soviet Union is deepening cooperation with the other socialist states. It is common knowledge that the Soviet Union was the author of the initiative to start the training of the citizens of other countries for space flights on Soviet ships and stations", Academician Kozesnik noted.

Report Sent to Brezhnev, Husak

LD041310Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Cosmonauts Romanenko, Greckho, Gubarev and Remek have sent a report to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR. It says:

We are pleased to report to you from on board the orbital scientific-research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 that the international crew has begun carrying out the planned program of scientific-technical and medicobiological research and experiments. The space complex's onboard systems are functioning normally, and all members of the crew feel well.

Our international crew will put all its strength and knowledge into fulfilling the flight program.

Long live the friendship and cooperation of the fraternal socialist countries!

Cosmonauts Telegram Brezhnev, Husak

LD041312Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The crew of the orbital complex Salyut 6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 has sent a telegram to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and to Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR. The telegram says:

Dear Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Gustav Husak:

We cordially thank you for your warm greetings and good wishes. We promise the party and state leadership of our fraternal countries, and you personally Leonid Ilich and Gustav Nikodemovich, that we will try to the fullest extent of our strength and knowledge to justify the high honor of being the international crew that marks the beginning of the implementation of a unified joint program of the socialist countries for investigating and using space in the aims of peace.

Long live socialist internationalism!

[Signed] Romenenko, Grechko, Gubarev, Remek.

Cosmonauts Break Endurance Record

LD041456Y Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov reports from the Flight Control Centre:

In the early hours of Saturday, Soviet Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko exceeded the record of maximum duration of space flight achieved in the history of space exploration, said Flight Director Aleksey Yeliseyev. The space "long-livers" were first congratulated on this important event by Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek--the first international crew of Soyuz-28, who arrived at Salyut-6 yesterday.

As we had expected, Yelisyev said, all the four of them did not quiet down till late at night in spite of much persuasion from us. It is quite clear as mail, greetings from friends and relatives came from the earth. For Romanenko and Grechko apart from all a source of joy were also stories of the earth, from which they have been away from 84 days.

U.S. Astronauts Congratulations

LD041208Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 4, TASS--American Astronauts G. Carr, E. Gibson and W. Pogue--the third crew of the Skylab orbital station--addressed a congratulatory telegram to Soviet Cosmonatus Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, who exceeded the world record of duration of stay in outer space, which earlier belonged to that crew.

The telegram expresses congatulations on the new record of duration of manned space flight and wishes further successes to the Soviet cosmonauts.

The American astronauts stayed in the near-Earth orbit for 84 days--from November 16, 1973 to February 8, 1974.

Director of the Johnson Space Center C. Kraft extended cordial congratulations to the Soviet scientists and specialists participating in ensuring the activity of the Soviet orbital research complex on the fresh outstanding achievements in the exploration of outer space.

Experiments Begin

LD041230Y Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the Flight Control Center:

The space research complex Salyut-6 Soyuz-27 Soyuz-28 is continuing in flight. The working day of Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek began at ten o-clock in the morning today. After breakfast and check-up of the onboard systems of the complex, the cosmonatus started implementing the pre-planned work.

On the programme of the day are: medical and biological research, a technological experiment, physical exercises, taking photographic and cine pictures and television reports.

To carry out the technological experiment Morava developed jointly by Soviet and Czechoslovak scientists the cosmonauts placed a capsule with the substances to be studied into the electric heating chamber of the Splav equipment.

Working according to the programme of medical experiments, the crew of the Soyuz-28 spaceship carried out research into the cardiovascular system with the use of air-tight suit Chibis and registering multi-functional equipment Polynom-2 M. On board the orbital complex is continuing the joint Soviet-Czechoslovak experiment Chlorella started yesterday after the algae culture delivered in the Soyuz-28 spaceship was put into a nutrient medium. According to the data of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the onboard systems of the space complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 are functioning normally. Cosmonauts Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek are in good health and feel well. The programme of work of the international crew in the near-earth orbit is being carried out successfully.

COSMONAUTS GUBAREV, REMEK TO RETURN TO EARTH 10 MAR

LD041556Y Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--The international space crew--Russian Aleksandr Gubarev and Czech Vladimir Renek--will return back to earth late on March 10. This has been disclosed at a press conference in Moscow by Soviet Cosmonaut Aleksey Yeliseyev, director of the flight of the orbital Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 complex. After the landing of the international crew, Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, who today exceeded maximum-flight-durability mark reached in the history of space exploration, will carry out the final volume of work, medical check-ups, and will also return home soon. Aleksey Yeliseyev said that the main task of the four cosmonauts aboard the complex is scientific and technical experiments, most of which was prepared by Soviet and Czechoslovak scientists. The Chlorella experiment continues aboard the complex, which was started after the algae culture, brought by the Soyuz-28, was introduced into the nutrient medium. For the technological experiment Morava the cosmonauts place a capsule with substances under exploration into the electric-heating chamber of the Splav unit. Among other experiments is the study of optical characteristics of the upper layers of the atmosphere, medical-biological explorations. Appraising the work of the international crew, Air General Vladimir Shatalov, head of the cosmonauts training programme, said at the press conference: "The Soyuz-28 crew has worked efficiently in all stages--from the blast-off till arrival at the station." General Shatalov said that the training of international crews started in December 1976, when representatives of the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia came to the Starry Township. All of them "smoothly and promptly entered the cosmonauts' family" and excellently mastered the course of training, he said. Vladimir Shatalov expressed the hope that this year already representatives of Poland and the GDR will make space flights. Before 1983, all representatives of socialist countries, parties to the Intercosmos programme, will be in outer space. Every one of the participating countries made a weighty contribution to the elaboration of the Intercosmos programme, said Academician Boris Petrov, chairman of the Intercosmos Council of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. He emphasized that the establishment in orbit of a research complex, made of an orbital station and two spaceships, the work of Soviet and international crews aboard the complex "open up new prospects in further exploration of outer space".

Space Experiments Continue

LD051152Y Moscow TASS in English 1144 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--TASS special correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre: Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek continue implementing the scientific research and experiments programme on board the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 orbital complex.

The first session of radio contact with the crew of the orbital complex was held at Ten A.M. today. Under the medical research program Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek carried out a joint Soviet-Czechoslovak experiment to study oxygen regimen in the tissues of man who is in weightless conditions. The experiment was performed by means of the Oxymeter device worked out by specialists of Czechoslovakia. The technological experiment Morava, which was started yesterday on board the space complex, is going on. The cosmonauts are controlling the operation of the Splav installation and the temperature conditions of the process occurring there. Today the program also envisages physical exercises, cine and photographic filming, television reportages and an on-board press conference. According to telemetry data and crew reports, the on-board systems of the orbital complex are functioning normally and the cosmonauts feel well. According to the results of the medical checkup carried out yesterday by the crew of the Soyuz-28 spaceship, Gubarev's pulse rate is 61 and Remek's 53 beats per minute. Their arterial pressure is 130 by 60 and 135 by 55 millimeters of the mercury column respectively.

Hold Press Conference

LD051800Y Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov reports from the Flight Control Center: For the third day an international crew are working oboard the orbital research complex Salyut-6--Soyuz-27--Soyuz-28. Today the cosmonauts invited the journalists of the socialist countries, accredited at the Flight Control Center to a press conference.

"We are carrying out a big amount of experimental work, including those jointly prepared by the scientists of the USSR and Czechoslovakia," said Yuriy Romenenko. "Realizing all the importance of the new stage of the joint exploration and utilization of space for peaceful purposes we shall apply all our strength and knowledge for the successful implementation of the first manned flight under the Intercosmos program. We have been inspired in this desire by the warm words of greetings sent to orbit by the heads of our states." Georgiy Grechko noted that "joint work in the space orbit is the logical extension of friendship among the peoples of the USSR and Czechoslovakia." Aleksey Gubarev said that at the time of the press conference, the Morava experiment was under way. "We hope that its results will add new knowledge to space technology," he said. Sharing impressions about the flight, Czechoslovak Cosmonaut Vladimir Remek said he watched the night lights of his country's cities. "I would like to wish the dwellers of our beautiful planet that they all live in peace, in the same closest friendship as we have developed these days in space orbit", Remek said. The cosmonaut wished cosmonauts from other socialist countries successful flights in the near future.

After the press conference the cosmonauts demonstrated commemorative symbols of their flight: the national coats-of-arms and flags of the USSR and Czechoslovakia, portraits of the general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and the general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia CC, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Gustav Husak. The cosmonauts took along with them of the flight commemorative medals and pennants, including a medal with the image of Klement Gottwald, an outstanding figure in the international communist and working class movement.

More on Space Experiments

LD061332Y Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek have been working for the fourth day today on board the orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28. The working day of the international crew began at eight o'clock in the morning today and is to end at 23 hours of Moscow time.

Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek are carrying out today the joint Soviet-Czechoslovak experiment Extinctcia for observing the change in the brightness of stars when they set behind the Earth's night horizon. This research is conducted with the aim of obtaining experimental data about the presence at an altitude of 80-100 kilometers of a dust layer formed by micrometeorites.

Observations are carried out of some parts of the Earth's surface and the world ocean basin in the interests of environmental studies.

The cosmonauts are also doing physical exercise, conducting television reports and performing the scheduled operations of the Soviet-Czechoslovak biological experiment Chlorella being carried out on board the complex.

According to the figures of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the on-board systems and scientific apparatuses of the space complex are functioning normally. The members of the international crew feel well.

Research in the near-Earth orbit is continuing.

SOVIET-FRENCH SPACE EXPERIMENT ON ULTRAVIOLET SPHERE COMPLETED

LD041141Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1004 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Simferopol, 4 Mar, TASS--The last recordings of spectra in the remote ultraviolet sphere have been received from the Prognoz-6 automatic high-apogee station. This marks the successful conclusion of the joint Soviet-French space experiment.

"On board the Prognoz-6 station, which was launched from the Soviet Union on 22 September 1977, a Galaktika instrument, developed and manufactured jointly by scientists and specialists of our observatory and the Marselles Space Astronomy Laboratory, was installed," a TASS correspondent has been told by Academician Andrey Severnyy, director of the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory of the USSR Academy of Sciences. "It has been used to obtain valuable scientific material--more than 4,000 spectra have been recorded by the remote ultraviolet sphere, individual stars and star clusters."

The information gathered through Galaktika shows the high quality and great precision of this instrument. It permitted extensive data to be obtained on the luminescence of the geocorona, a large hydrogen cloud surrounding the Earth at a distance of up to over 100,000 kilometers, almost a third of the distance from the Earth to the Moon, the Soviet scientist pointed out.

We hope that with further study of the spectra by Soviet and French scientists, the academician concluded, new data of importance for science will be obtained on the physical condition of the goecorona and on the density of the hydrogen atoms and free electrons in the Earth's vicinity.

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